

Oxfordshire Guardian

Abingdon edition

Laurie wants city to be 'world class'



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John reaches a century of donations



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FREE INSIDE



What's on in OXFORDSHIRE

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Thursday, May 22 - Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Advertising/Newsdesk: 01235 511700

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BIG PLANS FOR STROKE CLUB

FOUNDERS of a group that supports stroke survivors have their fingers crossed they will become a registered charity next week.

The Stroke Club, which meets fortnightly at the College Oak pub in Peachcroft, Abingdon, are expecting an answer to their application on Wednesday.

It is the start of bigger plans for the group, who want to extend their Abingdon club across Oxfordshire and nationwide.

Gary Gill co-founded the club in November 2012 after surviving a stroke earlier that year.

He said: "We're looking at setting up other clubs because we now know the steps to take after what we've done here in the last 18 months.

"We'd like to go nationwide eventually, and we're looking to start setting things up now."

The club welcomes anyone who has had a stroke to their meetings, as well as their carers and family members who want to speak with others in a similar situation.

Lesley White attends the club with husband Paul White, who had a stroke in 2009 and was left physically and mentally disabled.

As Paul's carer, Mrs White has

By Adam Flinn
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

found the club to be a huge support for both of them.

She said: "The Stroke Club has been brilliant for me as a carer to be able to talk to others, and it gives Paul some independence.

"I do get down as I can cope with the physical side of Paul's disability, but the mental side is very difficult, but the guys at the club really pick you up.

"Paul looks forward to it every two weeks. Some of our friends didn't know how to talk to him after the stroke, but here we can be ourselves."

College Oak pub also helps raise funds for the group.

Pub manager Eddie Cavanagh said: "We have several customers who have been affected by a stroke in some way, and so it is a worthy cause that means a lot to us.

"We would like to thank our generous customers who, as always, continue to help raise much needed funds for charity."

The Stroke Club meets every other Tuesday at the pub. Their next meeting is set to take place on June 3 from 11am.



• Members of the Stroke Club with College Oak landlord Eddie Cavanagh (purple shirt)

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Children raise cash for schools

By Adam Flinn

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CHILDREN in West Oxfordshire raised thousands of pounds for their schools in a cycle challenge in Leafield on Saturday.

Youngsters from Leafield Primary School, Leafield Pre-School, Wychwood Primary School, Finstock Primary School and Ascott under Wychwood Pre-School completed one kilometre laps of a circuit outside the Caterham F1 Team factory in Langley.

Money raised from the day will be used for school projects including a new bike shelter at Leafield Primary School and a training pedal-less balance bike for Leafield Pre-School.

Families and friends watched the 135 children cycle hundreds of laps between them, in what was the second running of the Cycle Leafield event.

As well as cycling, there was a number of other events going on during the day, including stalls, a

pedal powered smoothie making machine, and a Caterham F1 car on display.

Event organiser Kath Cochrane said: "We had glorious weather, and the children cycled miles and miles."

"It was a great opportunity for them to cycle without any traffic, and they had a few sharp corners to do, which was really good for them to practice on."

This year's Cycle Leafield was held after the success of the first event last year - which also raised thousands of pounds.

Kath added: "I think the cycling went better than last year, and we raised a hearty amount for the community."

"One of the Leafield children cycled 29km in an hour and three quarters, and many were lapping at a similar rate."

"Caterham again let us use their centre, so we had teas, a raffle, barbecue and a bouncy castle, which everyone enjoyed."

Cycle Leafield is expected to make a return in 2016 after a one year break next year.



• Alastair Weeks taking part in Cycle Leafield

News Bites

Rave arrest

SUTTON COURtenay: A 20-year-old man was arrested on Harwell Road, Sutton Courtenay, on May 16 after police received intelligence that a rave was being held.

The man was arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to cause a public nuisance.

Thames Valley Police also arrested a 48-year-old man on suspicion of obstructing or resisting a constable and was given a caution.

130 houses

WALLINGFORD: Plans to demolish a former Habitat store and build more than 130 homes in Wallingford were approved at a South Oxfordshire District Council meeting last week.

Lightwood Property applied to build 94 homes and 40 care homes as well as 2,610sqm of commercial building.

Wallingford Town Council objected on the basis that it would reduce current employment land.

Town councillor Bernard Stone said: "With all the pressure that is on for more housing it was almost inevitable that it went through."



Man punched in face after cracking joke

BRITISH Transport Police officers have launched an investigation after a man who jokingly asked passengers to show him their tickets was punched twice shortly after midnight on April 18.

The victim had been walking through the train asking to see tickets, with the majority

train travelling from London Paddington to Didcot Parkway

responding in good humour. But one man, who officers are now looking for, punched the victim, breaking his glasses as a result.

PC David McNelis, investigating the assault, said: "This was a

nasty attack which left the victim with cuts to his face."

"We have examined CCTV footage of the incident and are issuing images of a man we would like to speak to in connection with the assault."

"Footage from cameras at Didcot Parkway station shows the suspect leaving the train with a woman in a pink blouse shortly after 1.15am."

Anyone with information is asked to contact British Transport Police on 0800 405040, or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

• Officers are looking for this man (right) in relation to an assault last month

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Protest against badger cull through county

PROTESTORS against badger culling pass through Oxfordshire this weekend in a walk from Gloucester to London.

They call the Government policy to control badger numbers 'brutal and barbaric'.

The group of 12 start their 112 mile Great Badger Trail in Gloucester today and will arrive at Cornmarket Street in Oxford on Sunday.

Author and ecologist Hugh Warwick is due to make a speech.

Ama Menec, who is taking part in the walk, said: "The idea had me jumping around the room with glee at the prospect of having a march from Gloucester to London."

"People out there think that the badger cull is all over now

but we know it's not.

"We are a small army but as we move across the country we will grow and grow."

Oxfordshire is on the edge of the tuberculosis buffer zone, so badger culling is not expected to take place in the county at the moment.

Anti-cull campaigner Dominic Dyer, of the Badger Trust, said: "This is a fantastic protest which shows the determination, spirit and commitment of normal people who are completely opposed to this shameful cull."

"Hopefully many people will tag along and show the government what England really thinks about this unscientific and unnecessary cull."

They are due to arrive in London on May 31.

Oliver makes UK team for linguistics Olympiad

By Adam Flinn

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

AN ABINGDON School student has been selected to represent the UK at the International Linguistics Olympiad (IOL) in Beijing this summer.

Oliver Sayeed, 18, was chosen as one of four members for the UK team for the second consecutive time, and will be competing against companies from all over the world.

The IOL has been held annually since 2003, with competitors faced with numerous puzzles in language and linguistics.

"It is an exciting prospect being in the UK team for the second year in a row, and having a go at some more tricky but fun puzzles," said Oliver, who lives in Abingdon.

"As an aspiring linguistics student, I would endorse this opportunity for a more scientific approach to language – something that, as there is currently no Linguistics A-Level, is lacking from our schools."

"If you have an interest in language beyond the specifics of particular languages, then linguistics might be for you."

Fellow Abingdon School pupil Anthony Bracey, 16, from Lambourne, Essex, was among 17 students who made it through to the final round of selection.

The fifth form student said: "I was extremely surprised but elated to have got through to the second round. The linguistics



• Oliver Sayeed (left) and Anthony Bracey

problems were tough, although fun as well.

"It was great to meet so many other like-minded people with a passion for languages."

Last year's Olympiad was held in Manchester, with Oliver being one of the four representatives for Team UK South.

His three team-mates were

each awarded an honourable mention at last year's competition, and Oliver will be hoping for recognition himself second time around.

The Olympiad will be held from July 21 to July 25, and is the 12th time it has been staged since the first event was held in Borovets, Bulgaria, in 2003.

Man fined after lorry exceeded weight limit

A LORRY driver who was caught breaking a road weight limit by Trading Standards has been fined £200.

John Johnson, 50, of Kensington Close, Abingdon, admitted driving a Mercedes heavy goods

vehicle weighing up to 26 tonnes on the B4015 between Chiselhampton and the Golden Balls roundabout on September 13 last year.

The stretch of road has a 7.5 tonne weight limit, and Johnson

was seen by a Trading Standards officer committing the offence at around 4pm that day.

Trading Standards prosecutor Anu Prashar said: "Weight limits are there for a reason.

"This shows that those flout-

ing restrictions can be caught and fined."

"We routinely have patrols around the county and when we spot drivers who are breaking weight limits, we will investigate and bring them to court for pros-

ecution."

He was given the fine by Oxford Magistrates' Court on Monday after pleading guilty by post, and was also ordered to pay £125 costs and a £20 victim surcharge.

News Bites

Pool offer

ABINGDON: Friends of Abbey Meadow Outdoor Pool (FOAMOP) are celebrating the pool's reopening for the summer by holding a competition to win a season ticket.

Residents are being asked to guess the volume of the combined volume of the main and learner pools, with the best estimate winning the ticket for 2014.

Copies of last week's Oxfordshire Guardian Abingdon Edition front page signed by FOAMOP volunteers and the town mayor Angela Lawrence are also being sold to raise funds for the pool.

It comes as FOAMOP completed their repainting of the pool building this week, with the pool set to reopen at 10am on Saturday.

Dr Peter Harbour of FOAMOP said: "The volunteers, aided by district council staff, worked their socks off."

For more details about the competition and the pool, go to abingdonoutdoorpool.org.uk.

Beer festival

ABINGDON: The Crown and Thistle is hosting a beer festival this weekend, with 15 real ales and three ciders for punters to enjoy.

It starts tomorrow and will run until Monday, with a range of beers and food also on offer during the course of the festival.

Do you have an Abingdon story?

Contact the newsdesk at news@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk or on 01235 516933

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Residents go to polls for council elections

BOB Price, Labour leader of Oxford City Council:

"We're pretty confident about most of the seats that we currently hold and we would quite like to add to it."

"We gained our 30th seat by winning a by-election in North ward, that was an important target for us, and we are keen to try and extend by winning in Headington and St. Margaret's."



CRAIG Simmons, leader of the Green group on Oxford City Council:

"Support for the Greens remains strong in Oxford and people are recognising that it is good for democracy to have an active opposition to the Labour-run city council."

"We have proven that we can constructively engage on a wide range of issues, from social housing, local economy, budget-setting and environmental policy."



TIM Emptage, leader of the Liberal Democrats on Cherwell District Council:

"Obviously we're fighting to win in every single standing, but the two we're most confident of are the two that we're holding in Kidlington."

"I've always noticed that most investment in this area is directed towards Bicester and Banbury. For the last for years I've argued for, and will continue to argue for, a fair share of investment for Kidlington."



RICHARD Langridge, Conservative cabinet member on West Oxfordshire District Council:

"We always work very hard, and we're obviously very hopeful for some good results."

"What I'm hoping for is however people vote in the European elections, in the district elections they will realise that it's about local issues, and voters will take this into account."



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Thousands of people are expected to vote today in the Oxford City Council, West Oxfordshire District Council and Cherwell District Council elections. Jack Johnson and Adam Flinn look into the make-up of the current councils and why it is important to vote.

TODAY'S local elections give residents the chance to have their say on who is making the big decisions on their behalf.

The district and city councils are responsible for running services such as planning, housing, environmental health, electoral registration, refuse collection, leisure and parks, markets and fairs, tourism and cemeteries.

They have the final say on, for instance, new developments within the city's boundaries and improving the local facilities.

The city council is currently under Labour control, with 30 seats to the Liberal Democrat's 12 and Green Party's five. Independent Mick Haines holds the other seat.

Today voters will decide on the future of half of the city council's 48 members, with the other 24 up for election in 2016.

West Oxfordshire District Council is controlled by the Conservatives, who have a total of 37 councillors, alongside four Labour, four Liberal Democrat and two independents. There are currently two vacancies.

A total of 17 seats will be contested today, alongside all of the seats on 17 town parish councils in the district.

Cherwell District Council has 50 representatives, made of 41 Conservatives, five Labour, three Liberal Democrats and one independent.

Fifteen councillors will be up for election, after Conservative candidate Timothy Hallchurch was elected unopposed for the Otmoor ward.

Residents can vote between 7am until 10pm while the location of polling stations is printed on poll cards.

Votes will be counted tomorrow, and the results announced during the course of the day.

European Parliament seats up for grabs in South East

OXFORDSHIRE residents are also set to vote in the European Parliament elections today.

The city is within the South East region, which, as well as Oxfordshire, covers Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

Voters will elect a total of 10 members to the European Parliament out of 119 candidates who have put their names forward.

Among those is UK Independence party leader Nigel Farage who is already an MEP.

The other nine South East MEP's are Daniel Hannan, Richard Ashworth, Sharon Bowles, Keith Taylor, Njri Deva, Marta Andreasen, James Elles, Peter Skinner and Catherine Bearder.

When voting residents will be asked to choose one party. Details of where to vote will be printed on polling cards.

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Money stolen in city charity shop burglary

THIEVES have stolen a safe and caused considerable damage to a charity shop in Headington.

CLIC Sargent's shop on London Road was broken into on Monday evening, with the burglars forcing entry into the shop before stealing the safe containing the day's takings and a small amount of petty cash.

Jeremy Lune, head of trading at CLIC Sargent, said: "It is incredibly disappointing that the break-in occurred at our shop."

"Every penny raised by the shop helps CLIC Sargent provide vital practical and emotional support to children and young people with cancer, and their families."

"We are saddened that the break-in could detract from this important work."

"However, we don't want this isolated event to overshadow the shop's ongoing success, which is due to the generous support of the local community."

"I would encourage anyone to donate their unwanted goods to CLIC Sargent, which will be sold to raise money for a fantastic cause."

Anyone with information about the burglary is asked to call 101.

Inquest opened into woman's tragic death

AN INQUEST into the death of an elderly woman hit by a fire engine heading to an emergency call on Cowley Road was opened on Tuesday.

Sultan Begum, 79, who lived nearby on Cowley Road, Oxford, was taken to the John Radcliffe Hospital, Headley Way, Headington, after the incident last Friday.

Mrs Begum died at the hospital later that evening.

An inquest at Oxfordshire Coroner's Court at County Hall, New Road, was opened and adjourned.

A provisional inquest date was set by the coroner for November 4 to start at 11.30am.

The incident at about 3.50pm shut Cowley Road between Shelley Road and Howard Street for about four hours.

The fire engine, based at Rewley Road, Oxford, had been called out to an emergency when it hit Mrs Begum.

She was said to be crossing the road while walking to her sick brother-in-law's house when the accident happened.

Thames Valley Police is currently investigating the incident and confirmed, as the Guard-

By Jack Johnson
[jackson@taylornewspapers.co.uk](mailto:jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk)

ian went to press, that enquiries were still ongoing but nobody had been arrested in connection with the collision.

More than 500 people attended Mrs Begum's funeral on Sunday morning at Central Oxford Mosque in Manzil Way, Cowley.

Her body has since been flown to Pakistan for burial.

Cowley Marsh city councillors Sajjad Malik and Mohammed Abbasi attended the funeral.

Cllr Malik said: "It was sad and sombre."

"There were quite a few family members and also a large local Muslim attendance."

"Unfortunately, the day she had the fatal crash she was visiting her brother-in-law, because he has not been well for a while, and sadly she met her death."

Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service issued a statement on Saturday.

It said: "Our thoughts are with her family following this tragic incident."

"The Fire and Rescue Service is co-operating fully with the police investigation."

John reaches a century of donations

A WITNEY milkman who donated his 100th pint of blood earlier this year has been recognised for his efforts by NHS Blood and Transplant.

John Millington, 64, began donating blood back in 1977 after being encouraged to do so by his wife Penny.

He has been working as a Dairy Crest milkman for 27 years, and currently serves customers in the Wychwood area.

John made his landmark donation in February, and says he has no plans to stop yet.

"My wife encouraged me to give blood and I was amazed at how easy and quick it was to do," said John.

"It's nice to know you are doing something useful that will potentially be lifesaving. One pint of blood at a time is nothing to me but could be very important to someone else."

Dominic Sutherland, lead donor relations manager for the region at NHS Blood and Transplant, said: "We are grateful to Mr Millington for every single donation he has given.

"We hope his achievement inspires other donors to keep giving regularly."

• *John Millington (right) with Dairy Crest depot manager for Oxford Jason Segrott*



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New facilities are eagerly awaited at JR

DOCTORS at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Headington are eagerly awaiting the construction of the new Cardiology Outpatient and Imaging facilities at the site.

Dr Saul Myerson and Dr Jim Newton are hoping that the new area, next to the Oxford Heart Centre, will mean appointments should be quicker and more comfortable for patients.

It is due to open later this year, allowing hospital staff to perform more scans, collaborate further in research and perform more complex assessments and lifesaving procedures.

Dr Myerson said: "It's going to be such an improvement for our patients. They will now have a bright airy space, comfortable wait-

By Adam Flinn

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

ing areas and more privacy.

"There will also be more advanced machines bringing the very latest technology available to our patients. It is a very exciting time."

Dr Newton added: "This development is going to transform the way we work and really improve the whole experience for patients.

"I will now be a consultant who is embedded within the department, right next to our technicians, which can only be good for communication and making the whole medical process more efficient.

"We are all very excited about the

development, and every time we walk past and hear all the building noise, that excitement builds.

"We are really looking forward to getting in and letting our patients see these new facilities."

The new development has benefitted from numerous donations, including £60,000 from the Doris Field Charitable Trust towards a state of the art 3D heart scanner.

Andrew House, head of major gifts at the NHS Trust, said: "Over the past two years, we have seen a huge amount of fundraising, from dinners and dances to marathons, variety shows and even chessathons. We are incredibly grateful to all those who have worked so hard to help to make this new facility a reality."



Iconic car manufacturer is set for anniversary festival

ABINGDON'S MG Car Club are celebrating 90 years of the historic marque next month, with a two day festival set to take place at Silverstone.

MG90 will see enthusiasts from across the globe gather at the famous race track for a full weekend of motorsport on June 21 and 22.

A 90-year timeline of MGs will also be on display, as well as numerous other attractions that all tell the history of the classic car manufacturer.

The festival is held each year at Silverstone, but the club is hoping this will be the biggest yet to mark the milestone anniversary.

Julian White, MG Car Club general manager, said: "This year

Plans for more housing to be built at Upper Heyford gets the go ahead

A FORMER RAF base that has been approved for housing is set to incorporate a further 60 houses, Cherwell District Council's planning committee agreed last Thursday.

Councillors approved outline planning permission for up to 60 homes and open space on land and buildings in Dow Street, Upper Heyford.

The base had previously been used by the RAF and the US Air Force before ceasing operations in 1994, and has already had planning permission granted for 1,075 homes.

Bob Duxbury, Cherwell's development control team leader, said: "The RAF Upper Heyford base covers approximately 505 hectares in total and this application refers to about 2.81 hectares within that.

"It currently contains 1920s red brick buildings and although the site is a designated conservation area, none of these buildings are listed and already have approval to be demolished.

"By granting permission for 60 new properties to be built in this locality, we will help bring a redundant space back into use while working towards meeting government targets."

As part of the condition of the latest planning consent, 15 of the homes will be marketed as affordable to rent, with another six available on a shared ownership basis.

"Normally we get around 12,000 visitors coming along, and we see lots of regular faces coming over from America and Australia. It really is an international event.

"Everyone has a story that somehow relates to MG, especially in Abingdon. Everyone knows someone who owned one or someone who worked there, so it's something that just reaches out to people."

For more information or to book tickets, go to mg90.co.uk.

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Concern over mental health service's future

AN OXFORDSHIRE mental health service's future has been thrown into doubt after it was revealed that its funding is set to be withdrawn over the next two years.

The Complex Needs Service, run by the Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust, is facing having its funding from the Department of Health stopped as part of government cutbacks.

Funding would be reduced by 50 per cent in 2014-15, and then by 100 per cent from April next year.

It means that the service's therapy groups in Wallingford, Witney and Adderbury could stop running this year, and the groups in Oxford by the end of next year.

Ken Williamson, from the Keep Our NHS Public Oxfordshire campaign group, said: "It's disastrous."

"The Complex Needs Service is recognised as a nationally important thing, which has now had its funding withdrawn over this year and next."

"Presumably the government thinks that the local mental health services will be in a position to fund it by taking money from somewhere else."

By Adam Flinn
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

"There is considerable disquiet in the service itself, and Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust are wrestling with it at the moment."

A statement from the Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust said: "The Complex Needs Service for people living with personality disorders has been funded directly by the Department of Health for several years.

"Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust have agreed within the contract negotiations for 2014-15 to a transitional plan for services for people with personality disorders to bring provision into the future.

"The needs of people living with personality disorders are a priority for Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust."

It added: "Working within difficult financial constraints, we are reviewing our service configurations to deliver the best possible treatments for this client group."

Simon named as fourth baton bearer

OXFORD City Council has announced its fourth baton bearer who will take part in the Queen's Baton Relay, coming to Oxford on June 6.

Simon Price, 18, from Henwood, will join fellow bearers Ian Warland, Juliet Field and Johnny Pemberton in carrying the baton at the Cutteslowe Summer Festival in Sunnymead Park.

The relay forms part of the celebrations for this year's Commonwealth Games, which

start in Glasgow on July 23.

Ian Brooke, head of leisure parks and communities at Oxford City Council, said: "This will be a fantastic community event with something for everyone.

"By bringing together cultural, nature and sports activities in one of the city's great parks, Oxford's event will undoubtedly create some great memories and start to inspire people about the Commonwealth Games."

Dame Kelly Holmes, president of Commonwealth Games England, said: "I'm encouraging everyone in Oxford to get involved when the Queen's Baton Relay comes to Cutteslowe.

"Sunnymead Park will be hosting an incredible celebration of sport on June 6 and everyone can join in."

• (From left) Ian Warland, Juliet Field, Simon Price and Johnny Pemberton



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News Bites

Fat flowers

OXFORD: Children across Oxford are being challenged by national charity Bibic to grow the 'fattest sunflower face', and help raise money for young people with social and learning difficulties.

The competition is open to youngsters aged up to 16-years-old.

Email hello@potterandrest.co.uk for more details.

City robbery

OXFORD: Two men have been charged in connection with the robbery of Stan James bookmakers, The Roundway, Oxford, on March 13.

The men, aged 19 and 18, were also charged with possession of an imitation firearm.

Both have been released on police bail to appear at Oxford Magistrates' Court on June 2.

Museum funds

OXFORD: The Ashmolean Museum has been awarded £10,000 from national education charity Ernest Cook Trust, to be used towards appointing an education officer to work with secondary schools.

The officer will help the museum expand its work with schools, and offer more online resources.



News Bites**Giveaway**

OXFORD: A free compost giveaway held by Oxford City Council is taking place on Saturday.

Residents can get the soil improver made from their old food and garden waste from Florence Park between 11am and 1pm.

License refund

OXFORD: Students in the city are being reminded that they may be able to claim a refund of £36.67 on their television license if they are moving home for the summer.

Any students who have three months remaining on their license can make a claim if they are leaving their accommodation and moving to a licensed address.

Get jogging!

OXFORD: The city council's GO Active scheme is encouraging people to join up with the Bury Knowle Joggers, and to start running over the summer.

Anyone over 16 can join the group free of charge, and the council is keen to promote jogging's health benefits.

The group meets every Monday at 6pm in Bury Knowle Park. For more information, email thale@oxford.gov.uk.

Laurie wants city to be 'world class'

By Adam Flinn

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

A NEW manager who will help with the running of the city centre has been appointed.

Laurie Taylor, who is currently the community response team manager with the council, is set to start in her new role on June 30.

The post of city centre manager had been vacant since Gordon Reid stood down from the position in January.

She will control the management for the city centre, as well as coordinating a programme of improved services to benefit shoppers, visitors and businesses.

"I'm delighted to be appointed to this challenging and varied role," said Laurie.

"I am looking forward to representing the world class city of Oxford as a great place to live, work and visit."

"This is an exciting time for the city with the new Westgate Centre progressing well through the planning process, as well as the Oxpens development and station redevelopment being discussed at masterplan



• Bob Price (inset) hopes Laurie Taylor will be beneficial during the Westgate redevelopment stages.

"I'm looking forward to how this role can make a difference."

Bob Price, leader of Oxford City Council, said: "She comes from a very good background and has got some fantastic personal relationship skills, which is ideal for the job."

"It's a very important role for

us as we move towards the redevelopment of the Westgate Centre, and there's two very important functions which Laurie has excellent qualities for."

"One is to establish good links with our current retail offer in the city centre, and also to ensure that we maintain the quality of the city centre environment as much as we can."

Graham Jones, spokesperson for ROX (Rescue Oxford) which helps businesses within the city centre, said: "We have to make sure Oxford stays very competitive as a shopping centre."

"I think she's got a lot of challenges ahead, and I would be happy to meet with her, work with her and see what opportunities can be grabbed."

Grants offered to Headington businesses

ORGANISATIONS in Headington are being given the chance to bid for £15,000 of funding, to encourage their employees to leave their car at home and walk, bike or use public transport to get to work.

It is part of Oxfordshire County Council's Travel Choices initiative, which wants to get workers in the area travelling in more sustainable ways.

The money for the project was given to the council as part of a £5m pot from the Department for Transport.

To be eligible for a grant, businesses must show they are committed to matching the grant by undertaking various activities, such as travel surveys and promoting sustainable transport.

Peter Lerner, the council's deputy director of strategy, infrastructure and planning, said: "Sustainable transport isn't just about big changes to the road systems or park and rides."

"Everyone can do their bit – a lot of people would like to walk or cycle to work, but there is often something that is holding them back."

"If businesses support their employees to travel in a more sustainable way, we all benefit from less pollution and less congestion."

For details, go to oxfordshire.gov.uk/businesstravelgrants.

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MACSAMILLION is famous across the county, even the world, through its website for supplying only the very best in footwear and has graced Avenue 1 in Oxford's famous covered market for over forty years.

James MacLachlan, the founder, has a simple motto. "If you are not going forwards, you are going backwards." For James, 'forwards' includes expansion through their recently launched website and online store and the current expansion of their Foot Foundation service.

Now opposite their existing ladies shop, the Foot Foundation has taken over what was the Jemini Florist unit, who have moved elsewhere in the covered market.

The new store features two, state-of-the-art, I-step digital foot scanners. I-step is a revolutionary, digital, foot scanning technology.

Your feet are scanned to accurately measure your correct foot size and pressure sensors determine your arch type and pressure points of the foot. The system immediately recommends custom selected orthotics and the Foot Foundation consultants are able to advise on selected footwear most suited to you from an extensive range of quality, specialist footwear brands. These include Mephisto, Finn Comfort, Waldlaufer and Semler to name but a few.

This service can transform the lives of people who have been wearing ill-fitting shoes or have a medical need for orthotic insoles for corrective purposes and with referrals coming from both the NHS and Private Podiatrist's, it's already shown that the right fitting and balanced footwear can improve comfort for sufferers of bunions, misaligned spines, hips, knees and ankles. If your feet are in the correct position, you have a much greater chance of retaining and improving a correct posture.

Our Feet are one of the most neglected parts of our bodies and yet one of the hardest working. We all complain, from time to time, that our feet are 'killing us' and in truth, the impact on our health from badly fitting footwear can be truly enormous.

Foot health is improved greatly by well fitted footwear and the Foot Foundation service has taken that principle to new heights!

With comfort still in mind, there is a personal boot fitting service specifically designed to accommodate wide calves. There are some wonderfully designed boots from Dutch company, JJ Footwear. It is also intended, in the near future, to offer reflexology and podiatry to customers in private treatment rooms.

Yvonne Van Bommel and Mary-

Ann Price, both Managing Directors and buyers for the Company, visit footwear shows in Dusseldorf and Milan as well as in Britain, always searching for the best in quality and style.

In our Ladies shop footwear is widely sourced from Europe. The core lines feature ballet pumps and loafers, but every season sees the arrival of an exciting range of fashionable collections to name but a few Wolky, Peter Kaiser, Arche, HB shoes.

The men's shop has many English brands that feature Goodyear welted footwear the likes of Crockett & Jones, Church, Jeffrey West, Loakes and many more, the store has a loyal following of customers, who return time and time again for their favoured, tried and tested shoes. Many also love the highlights offered by the more fashionable Italian styles on offer.

Whatever your needs, be it style, quality, comfort, or indeed all three, Macsamillion can help you. The new Foot Foundation store is now open, so why not call in and try out the service for yourself or call to book a free appointment for a foot health appraisal.

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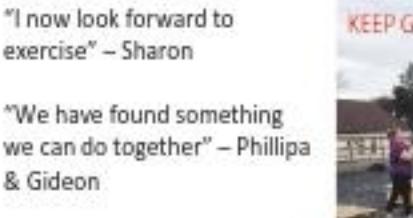
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This event is aimed at the general public, people who haven't experienced an outdoor fitness session with us before and want to find a bit more out about it and have a go for themselves. This is a special event for us as we are unveiling our JLPT obstacle course and along with the usual bootcamp fun it is sure to be a special day indeed.



"I love all the different things we do" – Clare

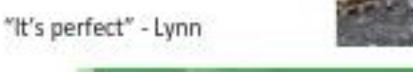
"I don't get out of breath anymore" – Shelly



"I now look forward to exercise" – Sharon



"We have found something we can do together" – Phillipa & Gideon



"It's perfect" - Lynn



We are taking the opportunity with this event to raise much needed awareness and funds for the Wantage Community First Responders.

The scheme was set up by South Central Ambulance Service to provide emergency care in the community and currently consist of 11 volunteers who are all trained by the Ambulance service. They are a much needed resource in our local area and we would like to support them and the great work they do.

We suggest that if you wish to attend this event you book your space soon as course time slots are limited and on a first come first serve basis.

For more updates and information you can find us on Facebook JLPT Outdoor Fitness Coaching. We regularly post information on nutrition, tips and exercises. Alternatively you could go to www.ridgewaytigersbootcamp.co.uk and reply to the email stating 'June event' or call Jo & Liam on 07976 008622/07960 618474 where a free personal review is always available.

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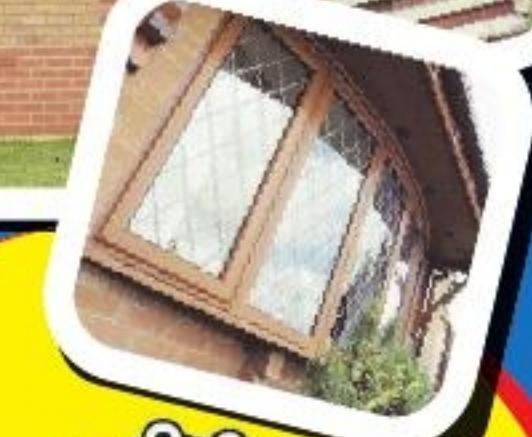
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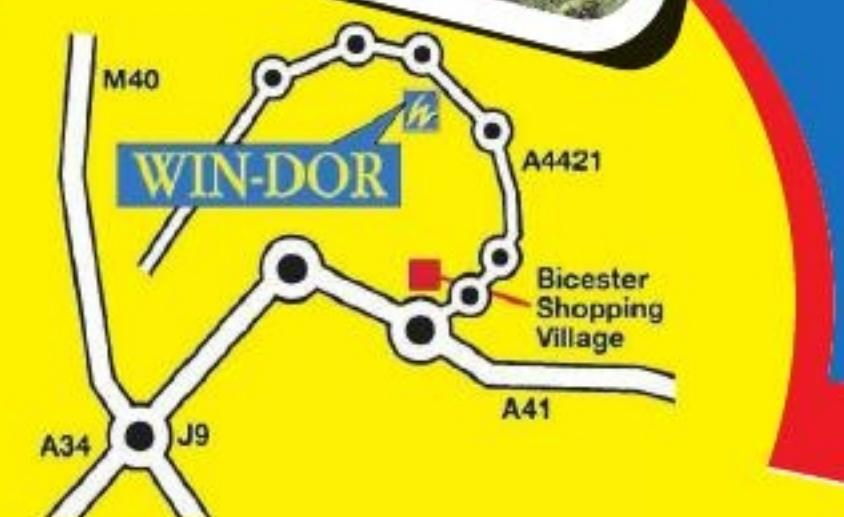
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Half marathon reveals Oxfam as lead charity

OXFAM has been confirmed as the lead charity for this year's Oxford Half Marathon, with hospice Helen & Douglas House named official local charity.

This year's race is on October 12, the fourth time the race will be held on the streets of Oxford.

Mel Taylor, charity director for Oxford Half Marathon Ltd, said: "We are delighted to announce two key Oxford-based charities for this year's race.

"This is the first step of our ambition to develop the race into one of the largest charity fundraisers in the south east."

Erica Dallimore, running events manager for Cowley-based Oxfam GB, said: "As an Oxford-based charity working globally to overcome poverty, this is a fantastic opportunity to engage the local community and raise vital funds for our work."

Poppy Hanbury, senior community and events fundraiser at Helen & Douglas House in Magdalen Road, added: "It's wonderful to be part of a local event which involves and benefits the local community."

Half marathon organisers are also inviting other local charities to become official partners ahead of the race, and have until May 30 to register their interest.

Downton actor visits hospital

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

DOWNTON Abbey star Jo Froggatt made a special visit to the John Radcliffe Hospital last week, joining a music therapy class for children.

Patients in the Bellhouse-Drayson Ward of the Children's Hospital, on Headley Way, Headington, played instruments and sung nursery rhymes and pop songs with music therapist Andy Stevens.

Mrs Froggatt's visit to the hospital was in celebration of the first 'Wear Rainbow Day', organised by Maidenhead-based children's charity Rosie's Rainbow Fund.

Carolyn Mayling set up the charity after her 11-year-old daughter Rosie suffered a fatal pulmonary haemorrhage in 2003.

Rosie's Rainbow Fund raises money for bereavement support, a parents therapy room at the John Radcliffe, music therapy and research.

Last Friday Mrs Mayling handed over a cheque of £500 to the hospital and presented nine-year-old Thomaz Lusby-



• (From left) Jo Froggatt, Thomaz Lusby-Roberts, Andy Stevens and Carolyn Mayling

Roberts, who is blind and has Cerebral Palsy, with an iPad.

Mrs Mayling said: "Rosie would just be so proud.

"It makes the whole thing worthwhile. It's a reason to go on."

Actress Mrs Froggatt joined Thomaz, three-year-old Chrislin Bose, who has bone cancer, and eight-year-old Summerlea

Burnett, who is recovering from a cardiac arrest, in music therapy.

The actress, who plays Anna Bates in the popular drama and is patron of the charity, said: "We started the day to raise awareness.

"It is wonderful to have music therapy and to help the funding of toys and arts and crafts

materials that kids need for long stays in hospital."

Mr Stevens said he feels "privileged and honoured" to work with children.

"I see the wellness in them despite the illness," he said.

"They still communicate and it is therapeutic for their wellbeing and it affects them physically in being constructive."

News Bites

STAND show

WEST OXFORD: Six actors, each representing an ordinary Oxford resident, will tell their stories of courage at a West Oxford Community Centre show next Thursday.

Stories include a teenager who stood up for a homeless man.

STAND runs to June 8.

Burglaries

OXFORD: A man has been charged with two counts of burglary of homes.

The first took place at a house in Union Street on April 4, when cash, an iPad, cameras and other items were stolen.

A second burglary in Crescent Road saw a rear door smashed open and an iMac, cameras and a mobile phone among the stolen items.

The man, of no fixed abode, appeared at Oxford Magistrates' Court last Friday.

Rich Kassam

OXON: Former Oxford United chairman Firoz Kassam has been named in the Sunday Times' Rich List 2014.

Kassam came in at 367th with £250m. The Tanzanian-born businessman, 59, was chairman of the club between 1999 and 2006.

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The **CIRCUS** **Is Back In Town...**

Saturday 24th May -
Sunday 1st June
Show at 10.30am, 12.30pm,
2.30pm & 4.30pm

The award winning John Lawson's Circus voted 'Best Small Circus', will make its return to Millets Farm Centre during the May Half-Term.

With an entirely human cast and featuring new acts and routines including Miss Monika from Hungary with her aerial skills, Miss Georgia from Romania on the aerial rope, Ross on the rola rola and no Circus would be complete without plenty of clowning around.

This enthralling show lasts an hour and is a great family experience not to be missed!

£5.99 per person

Tickets are available to purchase online at www.milletsfarmcentre.com. We strongly advise booking early for this event!

Millets Farm Centre
Kingston Road, Frilford, Abingdon,
Oxfordshire, OX13 5HB

www.milletsfarmcentre.com

Millets
Farm Centre

Date set for new town youth centre to open

HOPES are high that work will be finished this July on a new youth centre in Wallingford.

The £250,000 youth centre in Wigod Way is on the site of an abandoned and demolished church.

It will replace the former youth club in Clapcot Way and will also be home to a children's centre.

Oxfordshire County Council appointed charity Action for Children, who run about 200 centres throughout the country, in 2012 to work from the building.

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Jamie Baskeyfield, town clerk at Wallingford Town Council, said: "Our completion date is July 8 and we hope that our tenants will take occupation on August 1."

"It is still to be determined, but it is how we hope things will pan out."

The town council has put £89,000 into the project alongside grants and section 106 money from developers.

Bernard Stone, chairman of the Finance and Properties Sub-Committee on the town council, added: "It's on programme. The town council has committed a lot of money to this so it is all coming together."

Action for Children spokesman Hugh Beal said: "We're very excited about the proposals."

County Council cuts led to the closure of the old centre in Clapcot Way and the town council worked with South Oxfordshire District Council to acquire the Wigod Way site.

The youth centre will be home to youth worker Martin Thompson and Action for Children.

News Bite

Sports survey

OXON: People over the age of 60 in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse are being urged to have their say on sports activities across the districts.

Both district councils are set to bid for money from Sport England's Community Sport Activation Fund, helping to create more opportunities for older residents.

To take part in the survey visit consult.southandvales.gov.uk or call 01491 823431.

Pupils taught fishing at reservoir

CHILDREN from two Oxford schools were among a group who learned all about fishing at Farmoor Reservoir.

The youngsters from Mabel Pritchard Special School, in Cuddesdon Way, and St George the Great Catholic School, in Cricket Road, were among six who took part in the day on April 30.

Pupils took part in bug hunting, fly tying, fly casting and fly fishing, before learning about



a cookery lesson.

The event was run by Fishing 4 Schools, The Angling Trust and Thames Water.

Charles Jardine, of Fishing 4 Schools, said: "It was inspirational to bring fishing to such a diverse group of people of all abilities and backgrounds, who had never even thought of trying fishing before."

"Everyone took part, including the teachers and carers."

Will Barnard, from Thames Water, said: "Farmoor Reservoir is nationally recognised as one of the finest fisheries in the UK.

"It's important that communities and young people have opportunities to experience this for themselves. There is more to Thames Water than supplying water and removing waste, and our reservoirs being used for angling and other sports is a brilliant example."

• Fishing 4 Schools coach Lee Hooper teaches children about fly fishing

News Bites



Dog in TV ad

WITNEY: A dog has been chosen from more than 13,000 entries to star in Pets at Home's new advertising campaign.

Bruce, a beagle who lives with his owner Sue Jones in Witney, will feature in 'My Pet Moments', after he was filmed running behind Sue into their house.

Sue said: "We were so excited to hear the clip made it through to the final advert. Bruce is a beautiful dog and he deserves it."

Pool opening

WALLINGFORD: The Riverside pool is set to open on Saturday for the summer.

The town's Jubilee Splash Park for children and campsite is already in operation.

The Riverside pool, on the bank of the River Thames next to Wallingford Bridge, will be open from Saturday in time for the Bank Holiday until September 7.

Swimming costs £4.45 for adults, £2.85 for juniors and seniors and £13.40 for a family.

The OXFORD MOONLIGHT STROLL 2014

SATURDAY 12 JULY

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www.oxfordmoonlightstroll.org.uk

registered charity number 1118646

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What's on in OXFORDSHIRE

OxfordshireGuardian.co.uk



- Attractions
- Clubbing
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Grease is set for the New Theatre stage from next week. See overleaf.



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What's on in OXFORDSHIRE | NEWS

Teenage Kicks

PUNK rock group The Undertones, best known for their 1978 hit 'Teenage Kicks', will perform at Oxford's O2 Academy on Saturday.

The band got back together in 1999 after splitting up 16 years previously, and last year released 'An Introduction to The Undertones'.

Doors open at 6.30pm. For more information go to o2academyoxford.co.uk.

Comedy laugh

STAND-UP comedian Josh Widdicombe brings his latest tour 'Incidentally' to the Oxford Playhouse stage on Tuesday.

Josh has appeared on 'The Last Leg', 'Mock the Week' and '8 Out of 10 Cats'.

Tuesday's show starts at 7.30pm. For more details go to oxfordplayhouse.com.

Comic lecture

DANIEL Bye speaks about value in his comedic lecture, presented at Oxford's Pegasus Theatre from today until Saturday.

The show features bizarre facts and extraordinary stories, described as occasionally shambolic and often misguided, but a joy to watch.

For more information go to pegasustheatre.org.uk.

Sandy and Danny return

HIT musical Grease is retold by the Oxford Operatic Society in a brand new production at the New Theatre from Tuesday.

Grease gained notoriety with the popular 1978 film starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John.

And the songs from that film have recently been made available for

By Adam Flinn

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk



drama groups to use - something the Oxford Operatic Society is making the most of.

It means the society's performance

will feature more than 20 songs, many with their own dance number.

"Rehearsals have been really good, but it's been very hard on the cast because there's so many songs," said show director Dave Crewe.

"But it's been thoroughly enjoyable because there's so much for the company to do, and you find with some

shows there isn't as much as you'd like there to be.

"The nature of Grease is that it's all about rock and roll, and that encourages much more of a vibe with it and you can go with it how you want to."

The operatic society's adaptation of Grease concentrates more on the show's original story about how America changed culturally from the 1950s to 1960s. Whereas Grease the film focused on the love story between Danny and Sandy - although this remains a major part of the operatic society's production.

"Rock and roll and the advent of the teenager saw the start of the move into the liberal 1960s, and that's what the show is actually about," Dave added.

"We look at it much more from that angle as well as just a love story.

"Sandy is a metaphor for how America changed in the '50s when it was all repressed and conservative, into the '60s when it became far more liberal and enlightened, and much more about free love."

The first performance is on Tuesday, and runs until May 31. For more information, go to newtheatreoxford.org.uk.

• Phil Weller, Andrew Stott and Andy Halliday play Kenickie, Roger and Sonny respectively



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The Hobgoblin orders you to come and browse his selection of gifts and merchandise with exclusive in-store offers and promotions on bottled and cask beers.

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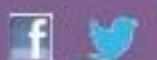
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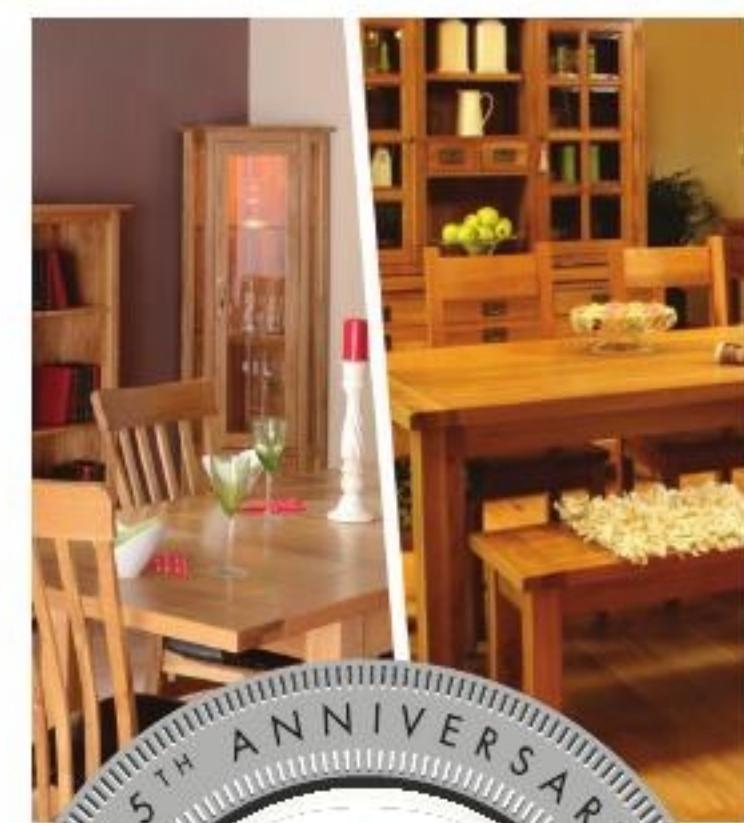


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FARES	Adult	Junior	JOINING STATIONS	Depart	Return
Standard Class	£85	£43	Didcot Parkway	06:15	22:15
First Class Plus	£135	£105	Oxford	06:30	22:00
Premier Dining	£209	£179	Banbury	07:00	21:30



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THE HEART OF WALES RAMBLER - Saturday 12 July

Come and enjoy a scenic journey along the Heart of Wales Line, a single rail track that meanders through the picturesque centre of Wales. We take an afternoon break in the Victorian spa town of Llandrindod Wells before heading homewards.

FARES	Adult	Junior	JOINING STATIONS	Depart	Return
Standard Class	£79	£39	Banbury	07:00	22:50
First Class Plus	£125	£95	Oxford	07:30	22:20
Premier Dining	£199	£169	Swindon	08:20	21:30

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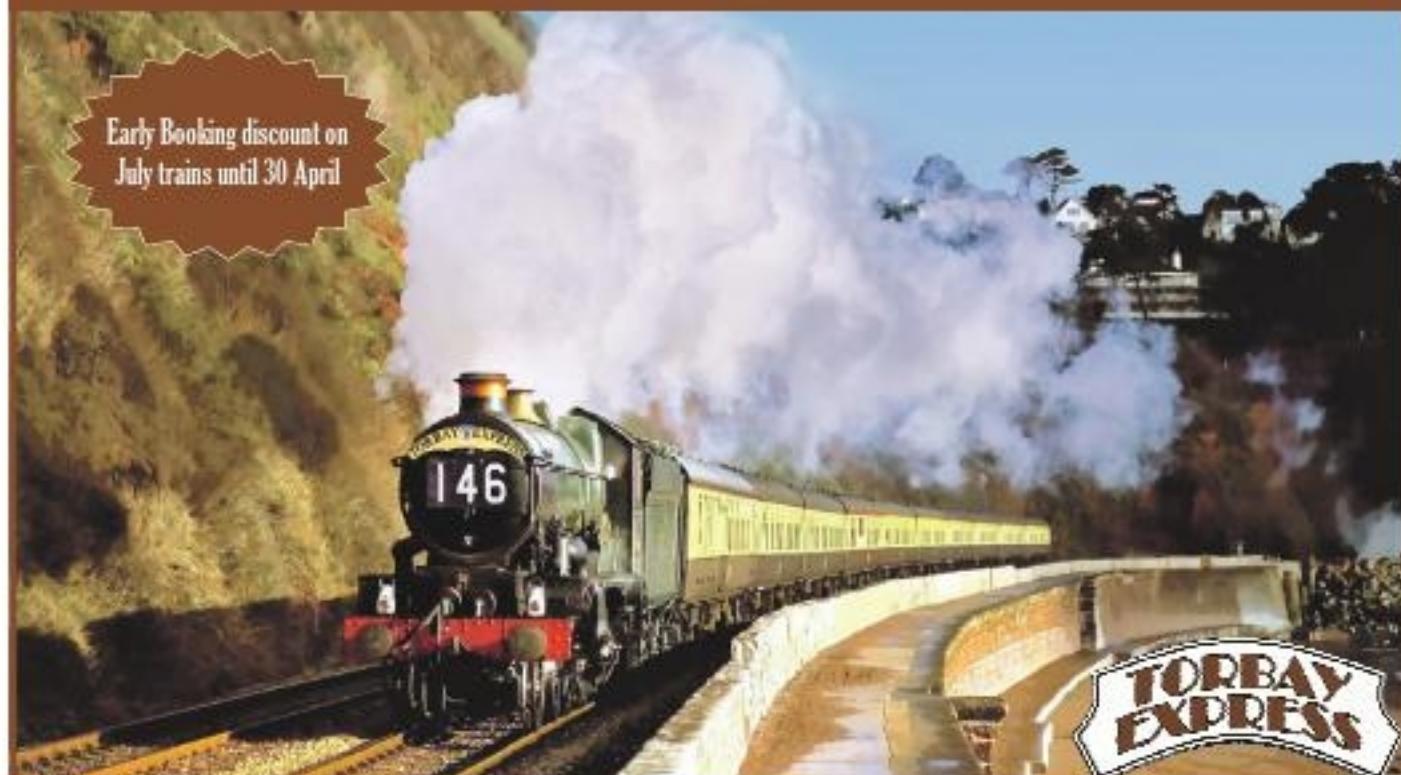


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Premier Dining - includes silver service full English breakfast, and four course dinner Adult - £215

First Class - includes light refreshments Adult - £139

Standard Class - Family Ticket £250 (2 adults & 2 Juniors) Junior - £55 Adult - £89

Tables for Two with guaranteed window seats available at a supplement of £25 per person (*not Standard Class*)

Why not make a weekend of it with a discounted Hotel break in Bristol? - see website for details

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◆ Discount available for harbour cruises aboard paddle steamer 'Kingswear Castle' when booked direct with operators ◆

◆ SPECIAL OFFER - Group Booking discount £20 off parties of four booked at the same time—*Not Family Ticket* ◆

TO BOOK

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Stag House, Giddynap Lane, Inchbrook, Stroud, GL5 5EZ

What's on in OXFORDSHIRE | NEWS

Gareth Malone

POPULAR choirmaster Gareth Malone is on his first ever live tour, which stops at Oxford's New Theatre on Saturday.

He is joined by New Voices for the show, whose eponymous debut album was released last November.

To book the 7.30pm show go to newtheatreoxford.org.uk.

Duo tribute

A TRIBUTE show to the Everly Brothers, renowned as one of the greatest harmony duos of all time, comes to Henley's Kenton Theatre tomorrow.

Colin and Steve Temple recreate the iconic pair's music with classic songs including 'Walk Right Back', 'Love Hurts' and 'Cathy's Clown'.

For more information, go to kentontheatre.co.uk.

Circus in town

JOHN Lawson's Circus returns to Millets Farm near Abingdon from Saturday, with new acts and routines ready for half term.

The entirely human cast includes aerial skills and clowning around to entertain visitors.

Show times are at 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm and 4.30pm. Go to milletsfarmcentre.com for more information.

Pirate Gran a treasure

THE adventures of Pirate Gran are brought to life at Didcot's Cornerstone Theatre on Sunday, in this swashbuckling children's production.

Gran is a little old lady who bakes and knits. It would be impossible to guess she is also a pirate if it wasn't for her wicked sense of humour and the

By Adam Flinn

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk



crocodile living under her bed.

The show is based on the Pirate Gran books by Geraldine Durrant, who



began writing in 2007 after taking a month off work.

"I'd never really planned to write a book, but I saw a competition that the BBC were running to write a short story for children," said Geraldine.

"As I'd taken the month off, I thought I'd have a go - so I did and I won it!"

The show has been adapted for the stage by Scamp Theatre, who will be performing a musical version of the story.

Geraldine recently went to see the show for the first time with her grandchildren, and said: "It's just wonderful, I'm thrilled to see what they have done with it."

"I'd dreamed up Pirate Gran as a story which I used to tell my eldest grandchildren when they were little, so they've grown up with her and the books are dedicated to them."

"It was very special to go as a family to see it on stage."

"What they do is highly imaginative and there's lots of lovely little touches, like for example Gran's chair in her sitting room had three ordinary legs and one pirate peg leg."

"You find yourself looking round thinking 'I hadn't noticed that'. It's very clever, very stimulating to the imagination."

Sunday's show begins at 2pm, and is suited for children aged three years and over.

For booking details, go to cornerstone-arts.org.

- **Pirate Gran** comes to Didcot's Cornerstone (Picture by Farrows Creative) and (inset) **Pirate Gran** children's author Geraldine Durrant

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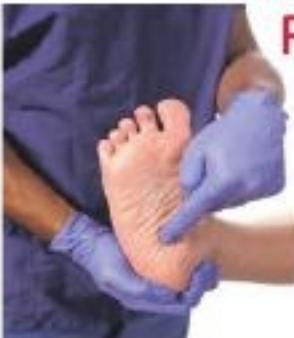
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What's on in OXFORDSHIRE | LISTINGS



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All proceeds will go to Cumnor School

24 May 2014 - 1 Jun 2014, 10am - 5:30pm
Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley

GNOMETASTIC
Half term fun in the gardens with Gnometaastic - Help the gnomes in the gardens who have forgotten their names! Find all eight gnomes and their names to claim your prize in the garden shop - £2 per child and children must be accompanied by an adult for whom the garden entrance fee applies (£6.50). www.waterperrygardens.co.uk 01844 339226

27 May 2014 - 27 May 2014, 11am - 3pm
The North Wall Arts Centre

1001 NIGHTS - TRANSPORT THEATRE & UNICORN ON TOUR

"Shahrazad - a lively young girl torn between her old home in the East and her new life in England, re-tells the stories of her childhood to her

new-found friend, who understands not a word she says. Nominated for an Off West End Award - Best Production for Young People.

Tuesday 27th May, 11am + 2pm, £7, 6+
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27 May 2014, 11am - 12am
The North Wall, Oxford
1001 NIGHTS
"Using the things she finds around her, Shahrazad fashions saucepans into crowns, old pipes into enchanted telescopes and a mop into a magic carpet to transport us to a fantastical and imagined world of kings, viziers, and jinns.

This compelling, funny and absorbing play was nominated for an Off West End Award - Best Production for Young People.

www.thenorthwall.com/01865319450

27 May 2014
Oxford Playhouse
JOSH WIDDICOMBE
Josh Widdicombe's brand new show, Incidentally. www.oxfordplayhouse.com

28 May 2014
Cornerstone, Didcot
DIDCOT FILM CLUB: GIGI
01235 515 144. www.cornerstone-arts.org

28 May 2014
Oxford Playhouse
DYLAN THOMAS: RETURN JOURNEY

This remarkable and mesmerising performance from Bob Kingdom is directed by Welsh icon of stage and screen, Anthony Hopkins. The show blends Thomas' stories and poems to conjure the electrifying presence of the man himself. www.oxfordplayhouse.com

28 May 2014, 8:30pm
The Lamb Inn, Mill Street, Wantage
DAVE MOORWOOD'S RASCALS OF RHYTHM

No admission charge, Raffle, Excellent food & drink, to book a table phone 01235 766768

29 May 2014 - 8 Jun 2014
Oxford Playhouse
STAND

A brand new production featuring stories of courage and conscience from people who took a stand for something they believed in. www.oxfordplayhouse.com

30 May 2014
Oxford Playhouse
THE OXFORD REVUE

Join The Oxford Revue as it unites with its biggest sketch comedy rivals, The Cambridge Footlights and The Leeds Tealights. www.oxfordplayhouse.com

30 May 2014 - 1 Jun 2014, 11am - 6pm
Bothy Vineyard, Frilford Heath
BOTHY VINEYARD OPEN DAYS

Free tutored tasting of wines with nibbles throughout these days. Free 1 hour tour at 11am on each of these days. Mark Alger, local art photographer will also be holding an exhibition in the winery of photos of vineyards and Abingdon, whilst an exhibition of enigmatic wooden sculptures will adorn our grounds. Entry free, no booking required. www.bothyvineyard.co.uk

30 May 2014, 8:30pm
Carswell Golf & Country Club on A420, east of Faringdon
STANDARD MILES

"British jazz supergroup revisiting the music played by the legendary Miles Davis. The band gives a unique twist to accessible, familiar material like My Funny Valentine, Green Dolphin Street, Autumn Leaves, and All of You. The loose, spontaneous and elastic treatments that Miles' quintet gave Broadway song material in the 1960s are the inspiration and provide the repertoire for a band full of well-known names.

To book tickets and meals go to our website www.oxfordlivejazz.com or ring 01367 718903"

31 May 2014, 8:20pm - 11pm

The Wheatsheaf High St Oxford

GAPPY TOOTH INDUSTRIES

"20.45 Who Put Bella In The Witch Elm?
21.30 The Scribes
22.15 Back Pocket Prophet
£4.50 on the door, cheaper at www.wegottickets.com/event/266379 www.gappytooth.com

31 May 2014
Oxford Playhouse
ERNEST AND THE PALE MOON

A haunting story of obsession and murder from the highly acclaimed Les Enfants Terribles. www.oxfordplayhouse.com

31 May 2014, 10am - 4pm

Oxford University Parks, OX1 3RF

FAMILY FUN DAY & FUN RUN

"With FREE entry to the parks, this is a great opportunity for families to gain information, exchange advice, and get valuable support in a relaxed environment. Those wishing to enter the One mile and/or 5km courses, held at 12 noon & 11am respectively, are encouraged to register online by visiting www.dyslexic.org.uk"

1 June

Miele Experience Centre, Fairacres, Abingdon

ABINGDON FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL

The festival will see all proceeds going to charity. There are over 40 food and drink stalls at the festival celebrating the best of produce from local business in Oxfordshire. Entry fee £2 (children under 14 go free) * Chef Demonstrations £3* Wine and Cheese Tasting £5* Proceeds from the event will be shared between SeeSaw and other charities supported by the Rotary Club of Abingdon Vesper.

1 Jun 2014

Orchard Centre Didcot

DIDCOT SUNDAY MARKET: NATIONAL BBQ WEEK

1 Jun 2014, 9:30am

Combe Playing Fields

COMBE FUN RUN

"Registration & warm up 9.30am Run starts at 10am All levels of ability & speed welcome (including dogs!) Scenic 8k route incorporating Blenheim & Run around the fields for smaller children Ice cream and certificate for all children participating Refreshments being served until 12 noon Including Bacon Butties & Home-made Cakes

Whether you fancy a quick morning run or a leisurely stroll amongst good company please join us! £3 entry fee in aid of Friends of Combe School

www.cornerstone-arts.org

3 Jun 2014, 7:45pm - 9:15pm

Old School Room, St Peter's, First Turn, Wolvercote, OX2 8AQ

ANHSO - THE RISE AND FALL OF OUR WOOD CULTURE - DR GABRIEL HEMERY

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As a practising silvologist (forest scientist) Dr Gabriel Hemery has undertaken research in subjects ranging from the walnut-fruit forests of Kyrgyzstan, to rearing chickens in farm woodlands; authoring more than 70 scientific articles. He created a new research woodland in Oxfordshire, Paradise Wood, and has planted tens of thousands of trees in field trials across Britain. His first book, *The New Silva*, was published by Bloomsbury in April 2014." publicity@anhso.org.uk www.anhso.org.uk/

3 Jun 2014 - 5 Jun 2014, 7:30pm

St Leonard's Church, Bledington

BLEDINGTON MUSIC FESTIVAL

The 14th annual 3 day Festival of classical music. www.bledingtonmusicfestival.co.uk

3 Jun 2014 - 7 Jun 2014

Oxford Playhouse

BETTY BLUE EYES

Betty Blue Eyes received rave reviews when it premiered in the West End in 2011, picking up an Olivier Award nomination for Best New Musical. This updated production featuring a 21-strong cast is directed by Daniel Buckroyd, Artistic Director of the Mercury Theatre Colchester, and is guaranteed to put a spring in your step. www.oxfordplayhouse.com

7 Jun 2014 - 8 Jun 2014, 10am

Burford Recreation Field, Tanners Lane, Burford, OX18 4NB

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What's on in OXFORDSHIRE | LISTINGS

gramme draw each day.
www.burfordcollectorsclub.co.uk

10 Jun 2014 - 14 Jun 2014

Oxford Playhouse

CATCH-22

In this landmark production of Heller's iconic text audiences can expect period music, some jitterbugging, and lots of dark humour. Explosive, subversive and funny, seminal story Catch-22 is as powerful a depiction of hope in the face of insane bureaucracy now, as it ever was.

www.oxfordplayhouse.com

12 Jun 2014, 9:30am - 11:30am

Oxford Town Hall, St Aldates, OX1 1BX

FREE MAKING SENSE OF APPRENTICESHIPS EVENT FOR BUSINESSES

Oxfordshire Apprenticeships are holding a free 'Making Sense of Apprenticeships' business briefing at Oxford Town Hall on 12 June, 9:30-11:30am. Employers thinking about taking on an Apprentice can come along for an informal Q&A session with a panel of experts and to hear from an employer and an Apprentice about their experiences.

You'll get to hear all about funding, training, recruitment... and to ask any questions you may have - come along and find out how to get started!

More info and booking at <http://makingsenseoxford.eventbrite.co.uk>.

<http://makingsenseoxford.eventbrite.co.uk>

13 Jun 2014, 8pm

Wallingford Town Hall

CATHOLIC RECUSANCY IN OXFORDSHIRE

"By Tony Hadland. Recusants were people who, after the Reformation, refused to conform to the Church of England. This talk reveals the secretive survival of Catholicism in Oxfordshire (including former North Berkshire). A surprising number of key events in English post-Reformation Catholic history happened in the area. Examples will be given of surviving records and source of further information.

Visitors (£3) are most welcome.
www.twhas.org.uk

14 Jun 2014, 7:30pm - 10pm

St Margaret's Church, St Margaret's Road, Oxford OX2 6RX

ST GILES ORCHESTRA CONCERT

*Liaodov: Baba-Yaga; The Enchanted Lake; Kikimora Gliere: Concerto for Coloratura Soprano (Yukiko Ishida)

Bernstein: Candide - Glitter and be Gay (Yukiko Ishida)

Rimsky Korsakov: Scheherazade

We welcome back our coloratura soprano soloist Dr Yukiko Ishida from Philadelphia USA to perform Reinhold Gliere's tuneful and unjustly neglected Concerto for Coloratura Soprano. The concert begins with three symphonic poems by the unjustly neglected Liaodov who died 100 years ago, and ends with the magnificent Scheherazade.

0751748553.SalesStGilesOrchestra@gmail.com

17 Jun 2014, 6pm - 9pm

Fairacres, Marcham Road, Abingdon

MIELE SEASONAL SEAFOOD COOKERY COURSE

: Miele are joining forces with Michelin starred chef Ryan Simpson, to teach a group of passionate amateur chefs the latest techniques in preparing and cooking seafood. As well as learning top tips from Ryan, guests will learn from the demo, how to cook two delicious seafood recipes, as well as being able to taste them afterwards! Drinks and canapés will be included in ticket prices. £35 per ticket
01235 233 171

17 Jun 2014 - 21 Jun 2014

Oxford Playhouse

DEALER'S CHOICE

Patrick Marber's award-winning dark comedy about the gritty world of amateur poker.

www.oxfordplayhouse.com

20 Jun 2014, 8pm - 10pm

Jacqueline du Pré Music Building

CAVALIERI QUARTET

Winners of Chamber Music Residency at Oxford University give recital at JdP.
www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp_01865_286660

20 Jun 2014 - 22 Jun 2014

Hill End Outdoor Centre

TANDEM FESTIVAL

Variety of folk, jazz, afro-beat, gypsy, and experimental music
www.tandemfestival.com

21 Jun 2014 - 21 Jun 2014, 10am - 2am

City of Oxford College

OPEN EVENT

*City of Oxford College Campus Open event Saturday 21st June, 10am-2pm <http://www.cityofoxford.ac.uk/city-of-Oxford-College-contact-details> For more details contact - 01865 550550" lucy.baker@activatelearning.ac.uk

21 Jun 2014 - 21 Jun 2014, 10am - 2:59am

Blackbird leyes Campus

OPEN EVENT

<http://www.cityofoxford.ac.uk/city-of-Oxford-College-contact-details> For more details contact - 01865 550550" lucy.baker@activatelearning.ac.uk

23 Jun 2014 - 27 Jun 2014, 10am - 1pm

MS Therapy Centre (Oxfordshire) Ltd

OPEN WEEK

-Come and see what the Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre offers. During the week:

Monday - NHS Physios, MS Nurse Tuesday - MS Society, new gym equipment specialist Wednesday - CAB, MS Society Thursday - Oxfordshire Carers, MS Society

Friday - FREE therapies Tasters 15-30 minutes, just pop along to try massage, reflexology, osteopathy, physiotherapy, auricular acupuncture and foot care 01235832023 www.omstc.org

24 Jun 2014, 7:30pm

Burton Taylor Studio

TWINS

Jack Barry and Annie McGrath are a unique young double act whose

curious sketches are filled with flights of fancy and offbeat charm. Catch this preview of their delightfully deadpan sketch comedy show.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

27 Jun 2014 - 28 Jun 2014, 7:30pm

Burton Taylor Studio

SEE WHAT I SEE

A bold dissection of the notion of sanity within Shakespeare. Eyestrings presents striking new interpretations of classic texts. Age guideline: 14+
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

28 Jun 2014, 7pm - 9pm

The Methodist Church, High Street, Witney

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAM-COAT - AMATEUR YOUTH PRODUCTION

A lively concert performance of the songs from this popular family musical, sung by the children of Songscape - Witney Young Singers. Interpreted in sign language by Dr Paul Whittaker OBE, founder of the charity Music and the Deaf. 07786 630164 www.songscape.org

28 Jun 2014, 8:20pm - 11pm

The Wheatsheaf High St Oxford

GAPPY TOOTH INDUSTRIES

"20.45 The August List 21.30 Blunderbuster 22.15 Don't Go Plastic £4.50 on the door, cheaper at www.wegottickets.com/event/271430" www.gappytooth.com

28 Jun 2014, 12:30pm

Kingham Primary School, west Oxfordshire

SUMMER FETE & PRIZE DRAW

"Morgan Motor Company has donated a Morgan Supersports Junior Pedal Car (worth £3000) as a prize for the school's raffle!"

29 Jun 2014, 10am - 4pm

Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley

RARE PLANT FAIR

The chance to browse stalls

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Visit OxfordshireGuardian.co.uk
for the full guide of what to see and do in Oxfordshire

1 Jul 2014 - 3 Jul 2014, 9pm

Burton Taylor Studio

A QUARTET OF CHEKHOV FARCES

Join MCS for a romp through Chekhov's lighter side, as they present four of his popular farces in a fast-paced evening of refined absurdity. Russian style.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

4 Jul 2014, 7:30pm

Burton Taylor Studio

ESSEX LION

Ever seen a lion? In the wild? Step into Luke's world of romping satirical verse where posh plumbers, paunchy ex-rockers and Lovejoy roam free. Get ready to roar.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

5 Jul 2014

Burton Taylor Studio

JACK AND THE BEAN-STALK

*Times: 11am & 2pm
As Jack sells his cow for five magic beans and finds himself in the land above the clouds, expect lots of surprises, a gripping story and beautiful images. Age guideline: 3+
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

6 Jul 2014

Orchard Centre Didcot

DIDCOT SUNDAY MARKET: STRAWBERRY DELIGHT

8 Jul 2014, 8pm
Burton Taylor Studio
MORGAN & WEST
"Time-travelling magic duo Morgan & West presents a brand new show, Parlour Tricks, chock full of jaw-dropping, brain-bursting, gasp-eliciting feats of magic. Tickets: £8 (special preview price)
Age guideline: 7+
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

9 Jul 2014, 7:30pm

Burton Taylor Studio

STORYSMITHS' RADICAL WOMEN

Join Rebecca Mordan, of Scary Little Girls, in this intimate evening of storytelling celebrating some of English literature's most Radical Women. Age guideline: 11+
www.anhso.org.uk

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Richmond Letcombe Regis

Nurses and Carers Open Day at Richmond Letcombe Regis

Thursday 29th May, 6pm – 9pm and Saturday 31st May, 10am – 2pm

IMAGINE having a job where every day you can actually say ‘I made a difference today’? Well if you are a nurse or carer this is something you could, and should, say to yourself every single day.

Those nurses and carers working within the care home industry have the added benefit of not only making a difference to patients’ lives but also the benefit of building strong relationships with both the person they are caring for and their family.

The award-winning retirement village and care home operator Richmond Letcombe Regis are holding two open days on **Thursday 29th May, 6pm – 9pm and Saturday 31st May, 10am – 2pm**, especially for nurses and carers so that they can understand more about the role within a luxury care home.

Elisabeth Parker, Village Manager, commented “Nurses and carers often dismiss the thought of working in a care home environment in favour of working in a hospital. However, when people see the wonderful environment that you can work within and the amazing difference that you can make

to someone’s wellbeing, working in a care home becomes a very appealing proposition.”

Throughout the open day qualified nurses and carers who are thinking about changing jobs will have the opportunity to look around the Richmond Letcombe Regis care home and speak to Elisabeth and her team to find out more about the role.

We spoke to a resident at Richmond Letcombe Regis who had spent time in hospital before coming to the care home. “All the nurses in the hospital were lovely, but they all seemed so busy. The nurses here are busy as well, but we always have time to chat and I look on them as my friends, not just carers.”

So, if you are a qualified nurse or carer, or are perhaps thinking about a caring career, why not pop along to Richmond Letcombe Regis on either Thursday 29th or Saturday 31st May and find out more? For more information on the event please call either Elisabeth Parker or the Deputy Village Manager, Sharon Hunt, on 01235 773970 or visit www.richmond-villages.com/letcombe.



Care home lounge at Richmond Letcombe Regis



Elisabeth Parker, Village Manager at Richmond Letcombe Regis

What's on in OXFORDSHIRE | PUZZLES



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Sudoku

Place a number from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so that each 3x3 block, column, and full row includes each of the numbers from 1 to 9 only once. **EASY/MEDIUM/HARD**

8			6		9	2		
1	5				7	4		
		7	1		3		6	
	1	6				9		
3	9		5	2		6	4	
7				4	8			
4	2		5	7				
8	3					1	5	
6	9		2				3	

1	9			6		7		
5						2		
2	6		7			4		
8		3		5				
3	5		1			9		
1		9		2				
6		7		4		8		
8						1		
7	4			3		5		2

9			4					
5			1			3		
2	1			8	7			
2						7	3	
3					1			
9	6			5				
5	8			3	6			
4		7					2	
	6					5		



Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

- 1 North American fish dish (7)
- 5 Cured meat (5)
- 8 Rouse (4)
- 9 Grace (8)
- 10 In a style of building (13)
- 13 Stimulus (4)
- 14 Elliptical (4)
- 17 Place of business (13)
- 19 Confidence (8)
- 20 Grass with hollow stem (4)
- 21 Having got up (5)
- 22 Worthless (7)

Quick Clues Down

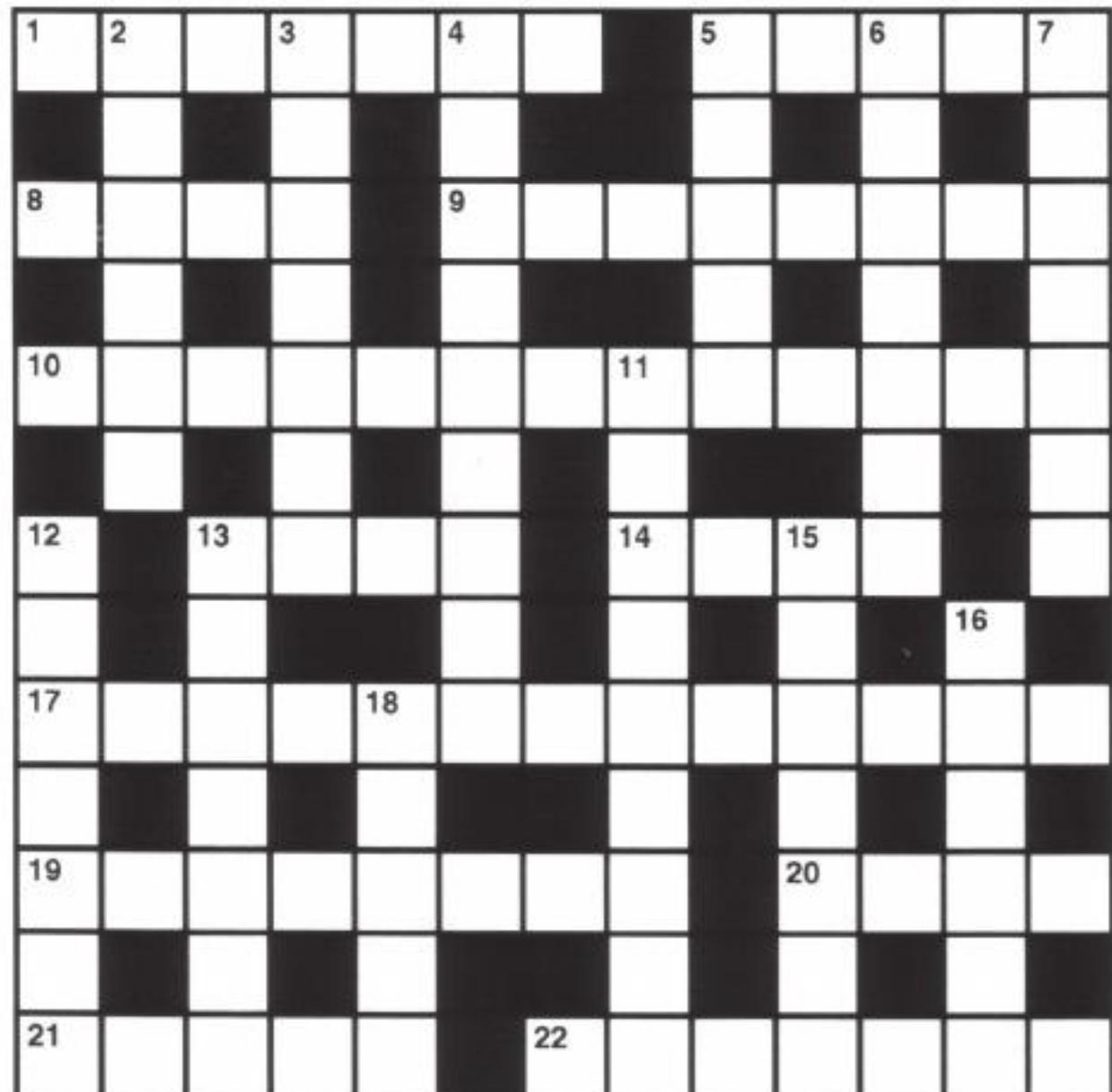
- 2 Those with strong dislikes (6)
- 3 Reverence (7)
- 4 Concerned with voting (9)
- 5 Narrow-minded person (5)
- 6 Exercise authority over (7)
- 7 Irritates (7)
- 11 Places of religious seduction (9)
- 12 More obvious (7)
- 13 Pays up (7)
- 15 Naval officer (7)
- 16 Enrages (6)
- 18 Seat of the intellect (5)

Cryptic Clues Across

- 1 A sailor, mark, will do without (7)
- 5 The peak reached by a hundred with the remainder following (5)
- 8 Strikes back to kill (4)
- 9 Ban the former list (8)
- 10 Being urged to use too little steam? (5,8)
- 13 A sure way to set a trap (4)
- 14 The advantage of being on the outside (4)
- 17 Examination of how to bury the prayer (13)
- 19 Out or inside contempt (8)
- 20 Time to go back and give out (4)
- 21 Sees a new way and relaxes (5)
- 22 Communication about the turmoil of the era? (7)

Cryptic Clues Down

- 2 Mr Crosby takes it up in mordant fashion (6)
- 3 Picture forbidden round the meadow (7)
- 4 Are opting out to get the highest speed (2,3,4)
- 5 Suits the societies (5)
- 6 Period certain to be scrubbed out? (7)
- 7 Put us after these to kill the Minotaur (7)
- 11 The outcome when the crisis had a different end? (9)
- 12 Can the end slip out of the yarn-holder? (7)
- 13 Gets weary again when he leaves work (7)
- 15 Deduces that the gun belongs to a lady (7)
- 16 Expecting to nip up and have an unfair share outside (6)
- 18 Unruly tress is at ease (5)



Scribble space

Last week's solutions

3	1	7	4	6	9	5	8	2
2	5	4	8	1	7	6	3	9
9	6	8	5	3	2	1	4	7
5	2	9	7	8	4	3	1	6
7	4	6	3	5	1	2	9	8
1	8	3	2	9	6	4	7	5
8	9	2	6	4	3	7	5	1
6	3	5	1	7	8	9	2	4
4	7	1	9	2	5	8	6	3

5	8	2	3	1	7	6	4	9
7	1	3	9	4	6	2	5	8
6	4	9	8	5	2	3	7	1
2	5	8	1	7	3	9	6	4
3	7	1	4	6	9	8	2	5
9	6	4	5	2	8	1	3	7
8	2	5	7	3	1	4	9	6
1	3	7	6	9	4	5	8	2
4	9	6	2	8	5	7	1	3

6	5	9	4	8	3	7	1	2
2	3	4	7	1	5	6	9	8
1	8	7	2	6	9	5	4	3
9	2	5	3	4	1	8	6	7
7	1	8	6	9	2	4	3	5
3	4	6	8	5	7	9	2	1
5	7	2	9	3	6	1	8	4
8	6	1	5	2	4	3	7	9
4	9	3	1	7	8	2	5	6

Quick Crossword

Across: 1 Upholsterer 9 Ear 10 Centipede 11 Minor 13 Amongst 14 Negate 16 Fetter 18 Titanic 19 Pacer 20 Reversals 21 His 22 Adolescents

Down: 2 Par 3 Occur 4 Sandal 5 Episode 6 Energetic 7 Germinators 8 Letterpress 12 Negated 15 Tendril 17 Scraps 19 Paste 21 Hut

Cryptic Crossword

Across: 1 Entertained 9 Out 10 Intestate 11 Krave 13 Emerald 14 Artist 16 Stripe 18 Syringa 19 Dogma 20 Inaudible 21 Pie 22 Replacement

Down: 2 Net 3 Elite 4 Titled 15 Inspect 6 Emanating

7 Workmanship 8 Needle cases 12 Alternate 15 Synodal 17 Iambic 19 Dream 21 Pin

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What's on in OXFORDSHIRE | COMPS

WIN a meal for two at new-look PizzaExpress Abingdon

PIZZAEXPRESS is celebrating the launch of its exciting new-look restaurant at Abingdon on 20 May by offering five fabulous prizes of a meal for two to the value of £40!

Located in a Grade II listed building in Stert Street, the restaurant boasts a beautiful al fresco dining area, perfect for the summer, as well as a separate dining area for parties.

Manager, Aga Candan, said, "We have a friendly and enthusiastic team who are looking forward to welcoming everyone to our beautifully refurbished restaurant over a delicious pizza."

PizzaExpress has been dishing up fresh, handmade pizza to Abingdon since 1996 and has a fantastic new menu. Its Leggera range includes skinny pizzas with fewer than 500 calories and the Superfood Salad is packed full of nutritious ingredients containing just 295 calories. PizzaExpress has also introduced gluten-free choices to its menu including a gluten-free pizza base.

For younger pizza-lovers, PizzaExpress' Piccolo menu is full of tasty choices including 'Create Your Own' pizza. And for budding chefs looking to celebrate a birthday, a Pizza Making Party will see them transformed into mini-chefs (or pizzaiolas) so they can stretch, toss and top their own pizza and play a game before sitting down

Closing date:
Friday, May 30, 2014

to enjoy their culinary creations. So kids don't have all the fun, adult Pizza Making Parties can be arranged on request.

And the restaurant runs free visits for local primary schools, turning the kitchens into classrooms.

For more details visit www.pizzaexpress.com.

WIN a meal for two!

To be in with a chance of winning one of five fabulous meals worth £40 all you have to do is answer the following simple question:

Q: What's Italian for chicken?

Terms and conditions: Offer available at PizzaExpress Abingdon every day except Saturdays. Cannot be used with any other offer or set menu including Tesco vouchers. Can be used on takeaways. Only completed numbers will be drawn. U.K. residents only. Offer ends 17 June 2014.

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Email _____
Name _____
 I would like to receive future news and offers from PizzaExpress.

Offer available at PizzaExpress Abingdon every day from 20 May until 17 June 2014 inclusive. Cannot be used with any other offer or set menu including Tesco vouchers. Can be used on takeaways. Only completed numbers will be drawn. U.K. residents only. Offer ends 17 June 2014.

**To enter more competitions like this, go online to
www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk**

For full terms & conditions go to www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk/about-us

To enter this competition

Just send your answer along with your name, address and telephone number to competitions@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk
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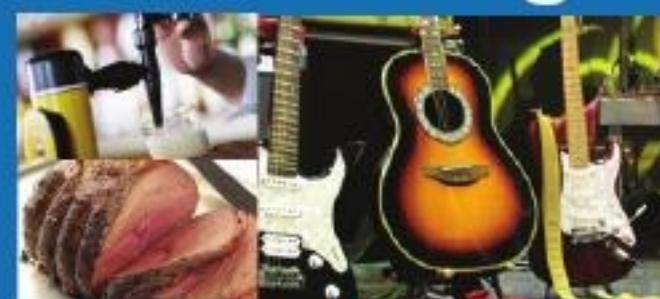


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Forthcoming Events



Friday 23rd May

Karaoke Disco

Friday 6th June

Live Music Sabbath

Check the website: www.railwayinnculham.co.uk for live music events!

Charity Fire Walking Event

in aid of the Little Heroes Charity

4th June

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And they call it poppy love...

During the First World War, the blasted and bombed battlefields across Europe created ideal conditions for the poppy to flourish

IT WAS a sight which, in 1915, inspired Canadian Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae to write the well-known war poem *In Flanders Fields*, with poppies growing there 'row on row', and as such, this vivid red flower has become synonymous with the great loss of life and sacrifices made in war.

This year, to mark the centenary of the start of the First World War, poppy displays will rightly abound nationwide.

The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh is creating a poppy field to be in full bloom in late July, Gunby Hall and Gardens in Lincolnshire has its own poppy trail, and there's poppy planting

at Sheffield Park in East Sussex (www.nationaltrust.org.uk) and beautiful displays at Dyrham Park near Bath.

Poppies will also feature heavily in Birmingham City Council's exhibit in the Great Pavilion at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show this year, while tens of thousands of poppies have also been sown by children, soldiers, civic leaders, community organisations, clergy and faith groups nationwide as a joint act of remembrance.

The field poppy or corn poppy, *Papaver rhoeas*, is the poppy of wartime remembrance. This annual flower can lie dormant for many years before germination which is then often triggered when the soil is disturbed. It's perfect planted in

a sunny wildflower garden or a meadow where it will self-seed freely.

Throughout history, a new generation of corn poppies was germinated each year as land was ploughed and grain scattered. It is a plant relevant to many cultures - to the Egyptians it symbolised blood and rebirth, while the Romans hailed it as the sacred crop of Ceres.

Its family, papaveraceae, is relatively small, with less than 800 species, but the types vary greatly in size and colour. Among the largest are the flowers of *P. orientale* Goliath Group, appearing atop shoulder-high stems. The petals share the same tissue-paper look as their smaller cousins, yet poppy types range from the toughest hardy perennials to pretty annuals, from giants with tall spires such as *P. pilosum*, to ground-hugging alpines. They are all followed by round decorative seedpods.

By far the most showy and most familiar in the garden is *Papaver orientale*, which adds dramatic highlights to early summer with their spectacular blooms. The typical oriental poppy is a hardy perennial which produces scarlet flowers with a black blotch at the bottom of each petal, but you can get other colours including pink, orange, white and plum. Stunning varieties include 'Mrs Perry', with large salmon-pink blooms and 'Patty's Plum', which is dark and dramatic.

Most named oriental poppies are ster-



ile and can be propagated by root cuttings, while species poppies rely on seed to keep them going. *P. somniferum*, the opium poppy enjoyed for its ornamental value, is a prolific self-seeder, but it's best to save some of its seeds to sow where you actually want them to be.

All poppies have a dainty appearance but many don't need staking. However, you must remove the dead blooms to prolong the flowering season. Good companions to oriental poppies include the frothy flowers of *Gypsophila paniculata*, penstemon and agapanthus.

Most poppies prefer sun and moist soil but several, including the Welsh poppy, *Meconopsis cambrica*, prefer stretches of woodland in dappled shade, where

they colonise ground between bluebells and wood anemones.

So while the field poppy will always remain one of the most powerful and poignant images of remembrance, its wider family in all its glorious colours and forms has earned itself a well-deserved place in the British garden.

• Above: A field of poppies. Photo: PA Photo/Steve Patterson

• Left: Family visitors enjoying poppies in the garden at Dyrham Park, Gloucestershire. Picture credit should read: PA Photo/Image courtesy of National Trust Images/Arnel de Serra.



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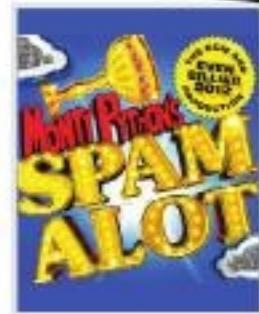
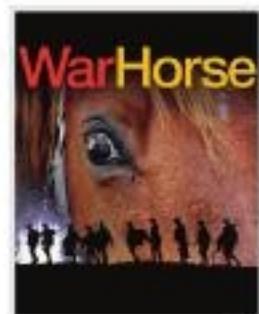
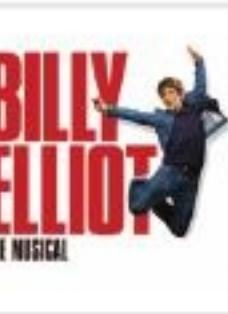
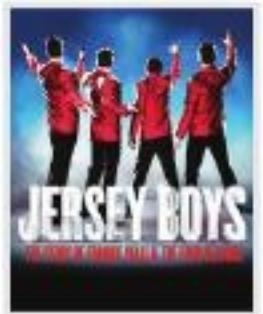
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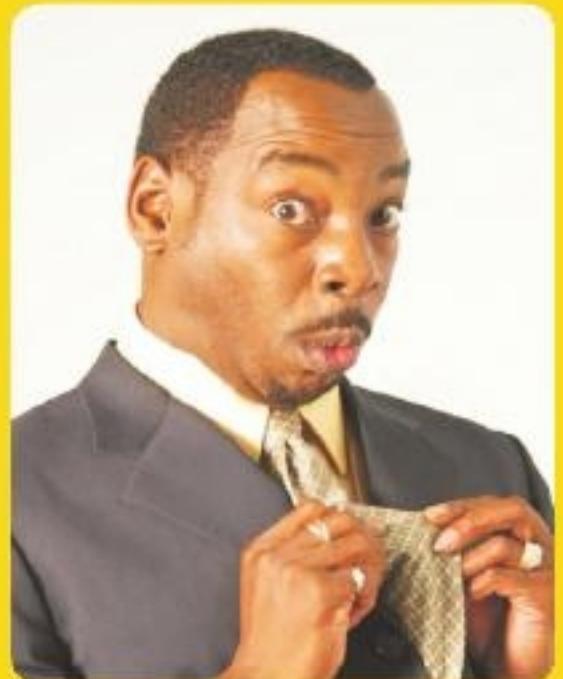


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Rudi Lickwood As the top black comedian on the UK comedy circuit, Rudi Lickwood is far more than just a stand-up. Rudi's recent achievements including earning his status in the **Black 100+ awards** for the greatest Black British Achievers, picking up a **BECA** award for outstanding contribution to comedy, and taking up a high profile request for Rudi to host an exclusive Brit Awards after-show party. He regularly appears at Jongleurs (Various), The Comedy Store (London & Manchester) and Up The Creek (London & Croydon).

"Wembley should just about contain him" – **The Stage**

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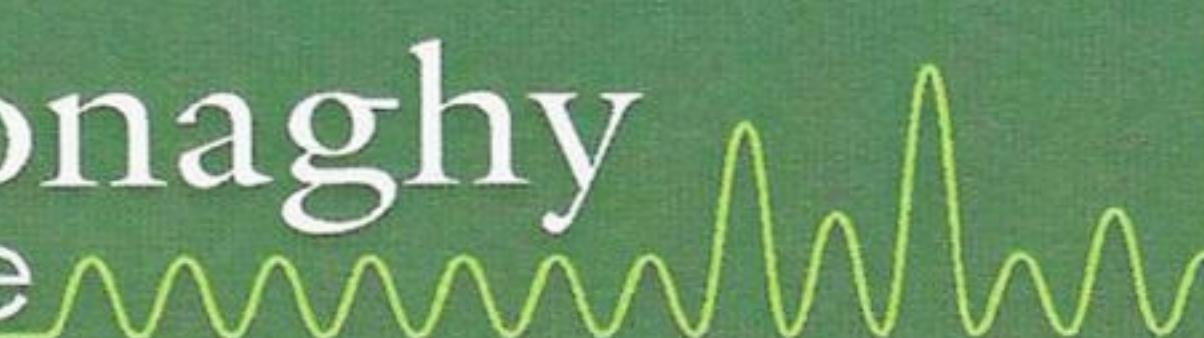
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The Honda Civic scooped an award for milage rates at Honest John car website

Drivers vote Honda top car

THE Honda Civic 1.6 i-DTEC was awarded the best Real MPG vehicle this month at the Honest John car awards for 2014.

The awards for popular car website Honest John asked drivers to submit how many miles their cars actually do to the gallon and collated more than 50,000 entries, covering all major manufacturers and models.

The Honda Civic scored the best total for the past 12 months, with an impressive average of 66.2mpg.

Honest John's Real MPG calculator was launched in June 2011 to offer a real world alternative to official quoted MPG figures.

The website also rated the 1.6 i-DTEC engine as best small diesel on the market.

Dan Harrison, editor of honestjohn.co.uk said: "We rate the Honda 1.6 i-DTEC engine as the best small diesel on the market with its refined nature and impressive performance. And further enhancing its appeal is its real world fuel economy.

"Figures submitted to Real MPG over the last 12 months show a realistic economy figure of 66.2mpg.

REVIEW: Honda Civic 1.6 i-DTEC

By **Katriona Ormiston**

@writeonmotoring

"At a time when running costs are a key factor in choosing a car, the Civic 1.6 i-DTEC makes a very strong case for itself."

Leon Brannan, head of cars at Honda UK, said: "This award once again confirms the incredible efficiency of the Civic 1.6 i-DTEC and the reputation of its light but powerful engine as the best small diesel on the UK market.

"With ratings based on the experiences of thousands of everyday drivers, these figures show just how the Civic performs in real-world conditions."

The Honda Civic combines fuel economy and performance – emitting 94 g/km of CO₂ with a powerful 120PS.

The engine was the first to be launched in Europe under Honda's environmental programme called Earth Dreams Technology.

The Best Real MPG award came hot on the heels of Honest John naming Honda as the top performing manufacturer for MoT pass rates.



• The Honda Civic 1.6 i-DTEC

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Fuel consumption figures for the Civic 1.6 i-DTEC SR in mpg (l/100km): Urban 70.6 (4.0), Extra Urban 85.6 (3.3), Combined 78.5 (3.6). CO₂ emissions: 94g/km.
Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Model Shown: Civic 1.6 i-DTEC SR Manual in Milano Red Non-Metallic at £24,360 On The Road. Terms and Conditions: New retail Civic 1.6 i-DTEC SR Manual registered from 2 January 2014 to 30 June 2014. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. The 5 Year Care Package includes: Servicing: All scheduled servicing, as detailed in the vehicles service book, will be covered for 5 years or 62,500 miles, whichever comes first. Warranty: In addition to the standard 3 year warranty the customer will receive a complimentary 2 year extended guarantee taking the warranty to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes first. Roadside Assist: In addition to the standard 3 years roadside assistance package the customer will receive complimentary Hondacare Assistance for a further 2 years, taking it to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes first. The 5 Year Care Package: The 5 Year Care Package is optional. It is being offered for £500 including VAT (usual value £1,845 including VAT) and is available to finance or non-finance customers. Please note, should you sell the vehicle during the period of cover, the package remains with the vehicle.



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*Example based on Mirage 3 manual. This Alternatives PCP finance plan is only available to customers aged 18 years and over, subject to status through Finance Mitsubishi, 116 Cockfosters Rd, Barnet, EN4 0DY. Indemnities may be required. Finance Mitsubishi is part of Lloyds Bank Asset Finance. Your regular monthly repayments are low because it is the nature of a PCP product that a significant proportion of the amount of credit/charges are payable at the end of the contract by one large final repayment. The finance plan figures are based upon a max permitted annual mileage of 10,000, excess mileage is charged at 9p per mile. The Guaranteed Future Value (GFV) is subject to condition and mileage payable unless you choose to exercise your Goods Return Option, in which case it is subject to the vehicle being returned on time, in good condition (fair wear and tear accepted), within the permitted max mileage and all payments having been made. Offer is only applicable in the UK (excludes NI, Q, & IOM) and may be amended or withdrawn at any time. Offer available between 1st April to 30th June 2014. Mitsubishi deposit contribution only applies to the Mirage 3 manual model purchased on Alternatives PCP 2. This finance plan is only available through Finance Mitsubishi, 116 Cockfosters Road, Barnet, EN4 0DY and is subject to status to customers aged 18 and over. Finance Mitsubishi is part of Lloyds Bank Asset Finance. This offer requires a 20% minimum deposit and the interest rate is better than other high street lenders. Indemnities may be required. 3. Over 63mpg achieved on all Mirage models. Combined range fuel consumption from 63.7mpg to 68.9mpg. Fuel figures shown are official EU test figures, to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

Mirage range fuel consumption in mpg (ltrs/100km): Urban 56.5 - 61.4 (5.0 - 4.6), Extra Urban 72.4 - 78.5 (3.9 - 3.6), Combined 65.7 - 68.9 (4.3 - 4.1), CO2 Emissions 100 - 95g/km.

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) Focus ST3 2.0 EcoBoost Petrol (250PS) : urban 28.5 (9.9), extra urban 50.4 (5.6), combined 39.2 (7.2). Official CO2 emission 169.0g/km. Retail only. Metallic paint extra cost. Vehicle shown for illustration purposes only. This supersedes all previously advertised manufacturer's promotions. Details correct at time of going to print. Subject to availability. Contact us for terms and conditions. Applies to new vehicles, contracted and registered between 16.05.2014 and 31.05.2014 for full terms and conditions please our sales team offer excludes Ka, Tourneo Connect and Ranger models.

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the cars shown are: Urban 40.4 (7)-n/a; Extra Urban 60.1 (4.7)-n/a; Combined 51.4 (5.5)-n/a. The official CO₂ emissions are 127-0g/km. EU Directive and Regulation 692/2008 test environment figures. Fuel consumption and CO₂ may vary with driving styles, road conditions and other factors.

* Terms and exclusions apply. 4+ package available to non-business customers on new Renault vehicles. Warranty 4 years/100,000 miles and routine servicing 4 years/48,000 miles (whichever comes first). Servicing package available to Renault Selections customers only; alternatively can be purchased for just £299 (price shown valid when purchased by 31 July 2014). Visit renault.co.uk/4plus for full details. Finance provided by RCI Financial Services Limited, PO Box 149, Watford WD17 1FJ. Subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Terms and conditions apply.

*£1250 deposit contribution is available to new Renault Finance customers when taking Renault Finance on a new Renault Clio, Captur or ZOE (excluding Clio and ZOE Expression and Renaultsport models). Offers cannot be used with other schemes or finance offers and are available on specified new vehicles when ordered between 1 and 31 May 2014, and registered by 30 June 2014. Clio shown has optional 1d metallic paint, available at an additional £595. Captur shown has optional 1d. metallic paint at £495 and painted roof at £300.

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11 60 FIESTA 1.25 PETROL ZETEC 82PS, 5dr, ink blue met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, front fogs, 5 airbags, aircon, HFS, alloys, ABS, ESP, one owner from new, FSH, 35,948 miles

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07 07 FUSION ZETEC AUTO 1.6 PETROL, 5dr, tango red met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, PAS, a/c, HFS, alloys, 2 airbags, ABS, very low mileage for year 26,519 miles, service history



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11 11 KA ZETEC 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, midnight black met/grey, 5 spd, a/c, HFS, r/CD, e/w&m, 2 airbags, ABS, c/l, front fogs, alloys, rear roof spoiler, one local owner from new, very low mileage 7,500 miles, FSH



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11 11 MONDEO TITAINUM X 2.0 TDCI 163PS DIESEL, 5dr, moondust silver met/grey, 6 spd, e/w&m, c/l, global closing, cruise + climate, park sensors, ABS, ESP, r/CD, Blue tooth, HFS, front fog lights, auto lights & wipers, FSH, one owner from new, low mileage 27,000 miles



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£600**

£11,995

13 13 B MAX ZETEC 1.0 ECOBOOST PETROL 100PS, 5dr, tectonic silver/grey, e/w&m, a/c, DAB r/CD, Blue tooth hands free, Ford Sync, hill start assist, HFS, front fogs, ABS, ESP, RFL only £30 per year, one owner from new, s/history, 2 years manufacturer's warranty, FSH

FOCUS

11 11 FOCUS TITANIUM 1.6 PETROL 100PS, 5dr, moondust silver met/grey, ew/&m, climate, auto lights & wipers, cruise, 5 spd, auto dipping rear view mirror, HFS, front fogs, alloys, 6 airbags, DAB r/CD, ESP, rear park sensors, one owner from new, FSH, 25,000 miles.....**DUE IN SOON**

12 61 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL 125PS 5DR ESTATE AUTOMATIC, moondust silver/grey, 6 spd auto, e/w&m, c/l, DAB radio CD, Blue tooth hands free, a/c, HFS, rear park sensors, front fogs, 6 airbags, ESP, ABS, FSH, one local owner from new, very low mileage 6,100 miles**£12,495**

06 56 FOCUS GHIA 1.8 PETROL, 5 dr, tonic blue met/grey, 5spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, a/c, HFS, auto lights & wipers, cruise, 6 airbags, front fogs, ABS, 2 local owners from new, FSH, 51,907 miles ..**£4,795**

12 12 FOCUS ZETEC 1.6 TDCI DIESEL, 5dr, moondust silver/grey, e/w&m, c/l, DAB r/CD, Blue tooth, HFS, a/c, privacy glass, 17" alloys, rear park sensors, front fogs, 6 airbags, ABS, ESP, one local owner, FSH, RFL only £20 per year, 20,400 miles**WAS £11,195 NOW £10,995**

12 12 FOCUS ZETEC 1.0 ECOBOOST 125PS, 5dr, moondust silver/grey, e/w&m, c/l, DAB r/CD, Blue tooth, HFS, a/c, privacy glass, 17" alloys, rear park, sensors, front fogs, 6 airbags, ABS, ESP, one local owner, FSH, RFL only £20 per year, 9,900 miles.....**£12,295**

2013 FOCUS ZETEC S ESTATE 1.0 ECOBOOST 125PS DIESEL 5DR ESTATE, frozen white/grey, 6spd, e/w&m, c/l, DAB r/CD, Ford sync, PAS, HFS, a/c, alloys, front fogs, 6 airbags, ABS, ESP, cruise, city pack, auto parking, city stop, Blis, lane keeping, auto lights & wipers, very low mileage 1,579 miles, our owner's car fully loaded, 1,579 miles.....**WAS £17,995 NOW £16,995**

13 13 FOCUS TITANIUM 1.0 ECOBOOST 125PS PETROL ESTATE, e/w&m, c/l, DAB r/CD, B tooth & voice control, cruise, auto lights/wipers, rear park sensors, HFS, fogs, 6 a/b, ABS, ESP, 1 owner, £30 road tax/year, 2 years manufacturer's warranty, 9,900 miles.....**WAS £15,995 NOW £15,495**

KA

11 61 KA EDGE 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, moonlight silver/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, PAS, 2 airbags, a/c, auto start stop, ABS, FSH, £30 RFL per year, one owner from new, 45,766 miles.....**£5,995**

06 06 KA .13 PETROL, 3dr, colorado red/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD, 1 airbag, ABS, 3 local owner, 50,190 miles.....**£2,595**

11 11 KA ZETEC 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, midnight black met/grey, 5 spd, PAS, a/c, HFS, r/CD, e/w&m, 2 airbags, ABS, c/l, front fogs, alloys, rear roof spoiler, one local owner from new, very low mileage 7,500 miles, FSH**£6,995**

10 10 KA DIGITAL 1.2 PETROL, 3 dr, midnight black & yellow/grey, 5 spd, r/CD, a/c, c/l, HFS, e/w&m, ABS, 2 airbags, 2 owners from new, service history, £30RFL, 30,183 miles.....**£6,595**

11 11 KA EDGE 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, midnight black/grey, 5spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, PAS, 2 airbags, a/c, £30 RFL per year, one owner from new, 31,213 miles.....**£6,295**

10 60 KA TITANIUM 1.2, petrol, 3dr, moonlight silver met/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD, climate, e/w&m, c/l, HFS, fr fogs, alloys, 2 a/bags, ABS, 2 owners from new, only £30 RFL/year, 34,827 miles ..**£6,995**

KUGA

12 62 KUGA TITANIUM 2.0 TDCI 140 PS DIESEL 2WD, 5dr, midnight sky met/grey part leather trim, e/w&m, c/l, cruise, auto lights & wipers, auto dimming mirror, 6 spd, DAB r & CD, Blue tooth hands free, roof rails, privacy glass, front fogs, climate, HFS, ESP, ABS, one local owner, FSH, very low mileage 9,800 miles.....**£17,995**

FIESTA

11 11 FIESTA ZETEC AUTO 1.4 PETROL, 5dr, panther black met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, HFS, r/CD, PAS, ABS, ESP, reverse parking sensors, front fogs, a/c, one owner from new, service history, 22,100 miles.....**DUE IN SOON**

07 57 FIESTA ZETEC S 1.6 PETROL, 3dr, panther black met/grey leather trim, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, alloys, a/c, front fogs, 2 a/bags, 2 family owners from new, 66,684 miles, service history **£4,995**

12 62 FIESTA 1.25 PETROL 82PS ZETEC, 5dr, moondust silver/grey, 5spd, e/w&m, c/l, HFS, a/c, r/CD, PAS, ABS, ESP, front fogs, 5 airbags, alloys, ESP, rear park sensors, Blue tooth, very low mileage 4,509 miles, one owner from new, FSH.....**£9,595**

11 61 FIESTA ZETEC 1.25 PETROL 82PS ZETEC, 3dr, moondust silver/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, HFS, a/c, r/CD, PAS, ABS, ESP, front fogs, 5 airbags, City pack, Blue tooth, 7 months manufacturers warranty, one owner from new, FSH, low mileage 12,501 miles ..**£8,795**

12 12 FIESTA 1.25 PETROL ZETEC, 5dr, panther black met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, Blue tooth hands free, HFS, a/c, ABS, 5 airbags, front fogs, PAS, one owner from new, FSH, 12 months manufacturer's warranty, 13,020 miles.....**£9,595**

11 60 FIESTA 1.25 PETROL ZETEC 82PS, 5dr, ink blue met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, front fogs, 5 airbags, aircon, HFS, alloys, ABS, ESP, one owner, FSH, 35,948 miles.....**WAS £8,595 NOW £7,995**

FUSION

07 07 FUSION ZETEC AUTO 1.6 PETROL, 5dr, tango red met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, PAS, a/c, HFS, alloys, 2 airbags, ABS, very low mileage for year 26,519 miles, service history**£4,395**

10 10 FUSION 1.4TDCI DIESEL 5 DOOR STYLE PLUS, vision blue met/grey, 5spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, PAS, HFS, ABS, 2 airbags, a/c, front fogs, one owner from new, FSH, £30 RFL per year, 43,243 miles.....**£6,295**

11 60 FUSION ZETEC 1.4 PETROL, 5dr, sea grey met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, front fogs, r/CD, 2 airbags, PAS, HFS, alloys, ABS, a/c, rear park sensors, 1 owner, low mileage for year 13,400, FSH.....**WAS £7,895 NOW £7,595**

MONDEO

11 11 MONDEO TITAINUM X 2.0 TDCI 163PS DIESEL, 5dr, moondust silver met/grey, 6 spd, e/w&m, c/l, global closing, cruise/climate, park sensors, ABS, ESP, r/CD, Btooth, HFS, front fog lights, auto lights/wipers, FSH, 1 owner from new, low mileage 27,000**WAS £14,595 NOW £13,995**

C MAX S MAX

11 11 C MAX 1.6 TDCI 115PS DIESEL TITANIUM, ink blue met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, heated windscreens, 6 spd, Dab radio & CD, Blue tooth, climate, cruise control, auto lights & wipers, PAS, City pack, alloys, one owner from new, low mileage, service history, 15,100 miles**£11,795**

11 11 GRAND C MAX 1.6 TDCI 115PS DIESEL TITANIUM 7 SEATER MPV, midnight sky/grey, e/w&m, heated scrn, 6spd, DAB r/CD, climate, cruise, auto lights/wipers park assist, front+rear park sensors, c/l, PAS, B tooth, FSH, 1 owner from new, 31,922 miles ..**WAS £13,395 NOW £12,995**

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02 02 HONDA CRV SE 4X4 2.0 IVEC PETROL AUTO, satin silver/grey part leather trim, e/w&m, r/CD, PAS, a/c, ABS, rear park sensors, c/l, low mileage for age 69,400 miles, FSH.....**£3,995**



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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Mazda MX-5 range: Urban 25.4 (11.1) - 28.8 (9.8). Extra Urban 45.6 (6.2) - 50.4 (5.6). Combined 35.3 (8.0) - 39.8 (7.1). CO₂ emissions (g/km) 188 - 167.

The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.

Model shown: Mazda MX-5 1.8i Sport Venture, OTR from £18,995. OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European Roadside Assistance.

°Test drives subject to applicant status and availability. Details correct at time of going to print. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless specified. Johnsons Cars Ltd is an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Limited which is Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch B97 4DA, United Kingdom. Registration No. 3716766 VAT Registration No. GB927551606.

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Official fuel consumption for the SEAT Ibiza 1.2 12V 60ps Coupe in mpg (litres per 100km); urban 39.8 (7.1) extra urban 64.2 (4.4) combined 52.3 (5.4). CO2 emissions 125g/km.
Standard EU Test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. Offers subject to availability, all figures correct at time of going to press May 2014. *Offers may be varied or withdrawn at any time and are only available from Hartwell Oxford Seat. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. Selected models only. Finance subject to status, terms and conditions apply. Guarantees and indemnities maybe required. Finance through Seat finance. **Savings shown against manufacturer recommended retail price (MRRP). Models shown for illustration purposes only.

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Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the range of Kia models shown are: Urban 31.0 (9.1) – 47.1 (6.0), Extra Urban 46.3 (6.1) – 58.9 (4.8), Combined 39.2 (7.2) – 54.3 (5.2). CO2 emissions are 189 – 135g/km. MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. 7 year /100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. For terms, conditions and exclusions visit kia.co.uk or see your local dealer. Price, Reevoo score and number of reviews correct at time of going to press and point at £550 OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Retail customers only. Subject to availability on vehicles registered before 30 June 2014. *4.9% APR available on Kia Conditional Sale and Kia Access on all Sportage and Sorento models. 10% minimum deposit required. Maximum term of 36 months. Offer not available in conjunction with any other offer. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. 18's or over. Guarantees / indemnities may be required. Kia Motors Finance R-H1 ISR. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Customer savings vary by model derivative.

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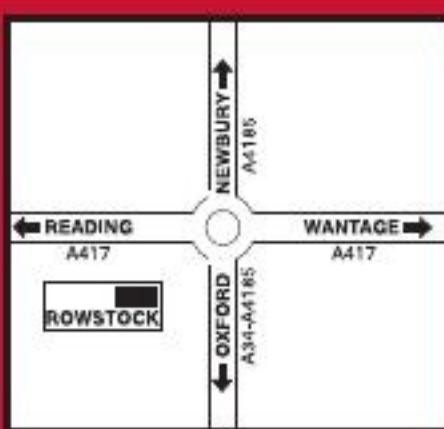
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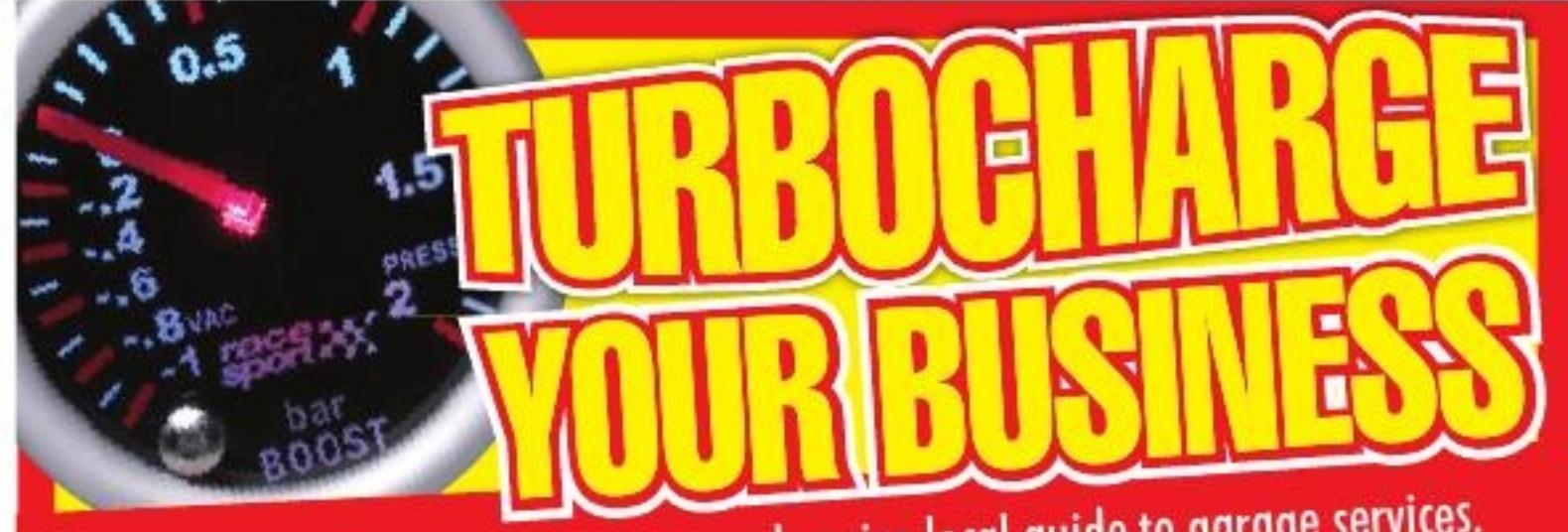
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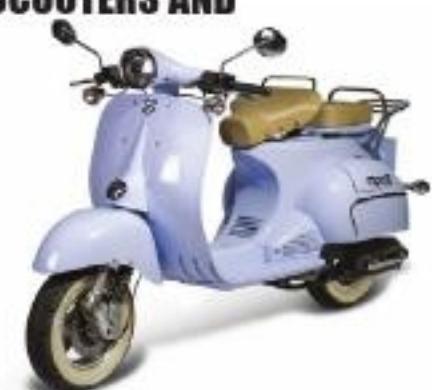


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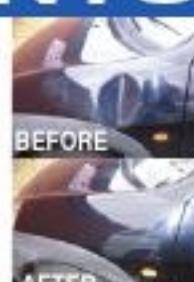
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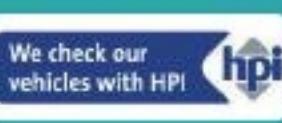
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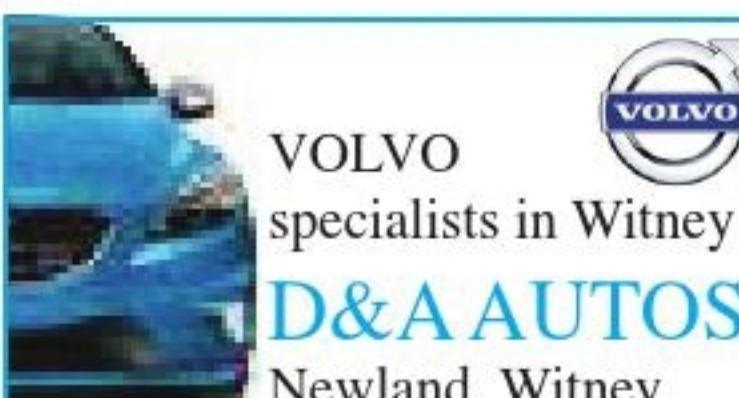
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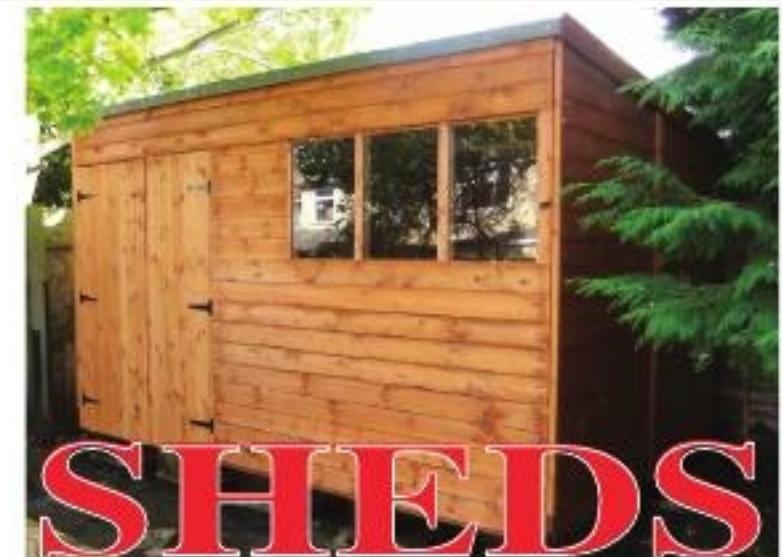


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Constable leaves U's after six year stint

Pepperell falls back following strong start

A THIRD round score of 79 dropped Abingdon golfer Eddie Pepperell out of contention at last weekend's Spanish Open, having led after the first day.

Pepperell started the tournament with a four under par 68, which put him one shot clear of the rest of the field.

A second round 71 put Pepperell in a tie for second place on five under par, one behind the Belgian Thomas Pieters.

But it was the third round where the damage was done, as two double bogeys, six bogeys and just three birdies contributed to a score of 79 to drop into a tie for 33rd.

Pepperell was able to post a par 72 round on the fourth day on Sunday, which elevated his position to a tie for 24th.

His final score of two over par was six behind tournament winner Miguel Angel Jimenez, who became the oldest player to win on the European Tour at the age of 50.

Pepperell will now be looking ahead to the BMW PGA Championship at Wentworth this weekend, where he spectacularly finished in a tie for sixth last year.

Smith rounds out top-10 at French GP

OXFORD MotoGP rider Bradley Smith was unable to capitalise on a strong start, eventually finishing the French Grand Prix at Le Mans in 10th position.

Smith started 10th, but jumped up to fifth off the start, and hassled the top four as he attempted to progress further.

He was soon shuffled back into eighth before becoming involved in a battle with Andrea Dovizioso and Aleix Espargaro in the closing stages, dropping back to 10th as a result.

"I made a great start and managed to go around the outside of the first corner and recover several positions," said Smith.

"But already by turn three I knew that my lack of side grip would probably affect my race."

"However, I still gave it my all during qualifying and the race, but all weekend we were not as strong as we hoped to be."

Smith is ninth in the standings with 34 points, 94 behind championship leader Marc Marquez, who has won every race this season so far.

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

JAMES Constable has turned down Oxford United's offer of a new contract and has signed for Conference side Eastleigh on a two-year deal.

The 29-year-old was offered a new deal after his contract ran out at the end of the season but rejected the terms, it was announced yesterday.

Constable, who netted 106 times for United after joining from Shrewsbury Town in 2008, leaves the Kassam Stadium just one goal short of equalling the club's all-time scoring record.

Nicknamed 'Beano' by United's fans, Constable also scored United's second goal in the 3-1 win over York City in the Conference Play-Off Final at Wembley Stadium in 2010.

He said: "I have absolutely loved my time at the club and would like to thank everyone for making my time there so special. The fans have been unbelievable and I can't thank them enough for everything."

"The club has been a massive part of my life for the last six years and it's sad to be leaving, but now I am looking forward to the next stage of my career."

United's head coach Gary Waddock added: "James has been a great servant to this club and a pleasure to work with."

"We respect his decision and wish him well as he moves on to a fresh challenge."

Eastleigh won promotion to the Conference Premier last season and are managed by Richard Hill, who once played for United.

Hill was understandably delighted to secure Constable's services in the new deal.



He said: "I've spent the past two-and-a-half weeks speaking to James and telling him all about what we are striving to achieve here."

"On the three occasions we've met, and during numerous tel-

ephone conversations, the subject of money has never been raised."

Hill added: "In truth, James was keen to stay at Oxford and overhaul the club's scoring record; a feat that after six years

of committed service there he was desperate to achieve."

"He was initially holding out in the hope that Oxford would offer him fair terms to stay and do that. Oxford's loss, though, is definitely our gain."



Clarke and Whing set for pre-season injury lay-off

OXFORD United have been hit by a double injury blow after it was revealed Andy Whing and Ryan Clarke require operations to resolve troublesome injuries.

The club confirmed earlier this week that Whing, 29, and Clarke, 32, are both likely to miss pre-season.

Whing, who has had an injury-hit season, will go under the knife this week for an operation on his hip.

Meanwhile, Clarke, United's player of the season, will have an operation on his foot and is likely to miss the first month of next season.

Manager Gary Waddock said it was a "shame" to see two experienced players on the injury list.

"They are both long-term injuries that need to be resolved," he said. "Having the operations early in the summer will give them both a little extra recovery time."

"You don't want to set time scales on these sort of things, but they are good pros and we know they will work hard and look to get back as soon as possible."

Waddock added: "In Whing's case we have Danny Rose, Jon Meades and Josh Ruffels competing for midfield places and Johnny Mullins will be back in pre-season and can play that holding role as well."

Clarke's injury will allow 20-year-old Max Crocombe an opportunity to break into the first team.

The New Zealand under-20 international has made four first team appearances, but didn't feature in United's 2013/14 season.

Waddock said: "With Ryan we are very fortunate to have Max Crocombe available."

"He has had to be patient, but deserves the opportunity to have a run of games in the side. He is someone we all believe has great ability and real potential."

On Tuesday, Matt Bevans signed a new one-year deal, while United announced they will play Championship side Wolves in a pre-season friendly on July 29.

• Andy Whing and Ryan Clarke will miss pre-season (Pictures by Steve Daniels)

Sport Bites

Ackling given new deal

WANTAGE Town have announced that manager Gary Ackling will remain with the club next season, following their promotion to the Southern League Division One South and West.

The Freds finished top of the Hellenic Premier last season, and Ackling has been retained alongside assistant manager Andy Lyne.

Club chairman Tony Woodward said: "I have great confidence in our appointed management team, which delivers both continuity and higher level experience."

Saints stay unbeaten

OXFORD Saints have kept their position at the top of the American Football Central Conference, after a 14-0 victory against Leicester Falcons.

The first half was very much a defensive battle, but Saints were able to break the Falcons courtesy of a James Ferrigno touchdown,

Stephen Bentley added to the score in the fourth quarter with a touchdown of his own, for a final 14-0 result.

They next play Peterborough Saxons at home on June 1.

Rugby win

OXFORD Rugby League won an entertaining match against South Wales Scorpions on Sunday, beating the basement side 40-24.

It means that Oxford are fifth in the Championship 1 standings with 12 points from their opening seven games, 10 behind league leaders Hunslet.

Oxford return to action on Sunday, as they travel to Hemel Stags for a 2.30pm start.

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More Sport inside: Football: Constable leaves U's after six year stint | Motorsport: Smith rounds out top-10 at French GP

BOTTAS READY FOR MONACO



• Valtteri Bottas has scored points at all five races in 2014 so far (Picture courtesy of Williams Martini Racing)

PRACTICE gets underway today for the Monaco Grand Prix, with Williams Martini Racing drivers Felipe Massa and Valtteri Bottas hoping for another points haul.

Bottas has picked up points at all five races so far this season and is seventh in the F1 championship standings as a result, with 34 points.

The Finn came 12th in his first race at the principality last year, but will

By Adam Flinn

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be hoping for more from his second outing.

"Qualifying in Monaco is the most important of the season as the design of the circuit makes it very hard to overtake in the race," said Bottas.

"Strategy is also important in the race

as you want to make sure that no time or positions up.

"I am really confident driving there now that I have experience, and so am looking forward to the race."

"It's also the closest thing I will have to a home grand prix as I live in Monaco, so it will be nice to go from home."

Massa had a disastrous weekend at the last race in Spain after struggling with tyre grip to finish 13th, and will

hoping to get his season back on track this weekend.

He retired from the race at Monaco last year following a sizeable crash, but he did manage to finish on the podium at the track in 2008.

Massa said: "The track is amazing and steeped in history, and we will need good stability for the circuit as it's so tight and traction is more important than top speed."

"The barriers are close and it takes time getting used to driving right up against them – sometimes you can even touch them and still do a good lap."

"Monaco is a special place. There are no other tracks like it on the calendar and that makes us enjoy it even more."

First and second practice takes place today, with third practice and qualifying on Saturday and the race on Sunday.

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